

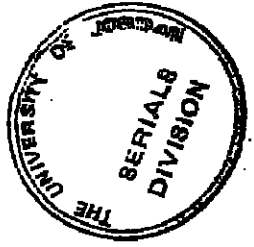
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Kuwait — Security forces Tuesday night arrested Jassim Mohammed Al Qatami and Dr Abdullah Al Nafisi for violating the gathering law at Al Qatami's Diwania.

Arabs in disarray

Ummah ignoring changes in the world: Assad

DAMASCUS, May 16, (Agencies): President Hafez Assad said today that the Arabs as a whole have done nothing to face the future and remain in a state of disarray.

The President also underscored his nation's commitment to Arab unity at a time when Syria is the most prominent holdout against a summit of Arab leaders

scheduled for Baghdad at the end of May.

"The Arabs as a whole have not done anything to face the future, and they have not initiated anything new to deal with the new world," the President said.

He was apparently referring to changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe that have eased superpower competition while calling the viability of socialist systems into question.

Open doors to Jews

Moscow asks US

CAIRO, May 16, (Reuters): The Soviet Union has called on the United States to open its doors to Soviet Jews to prevent them settling in Israeli-occupied territories, the official Egyptian Middle East News Agency (Mena) reported.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, following talks in Moscow yesterday with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Esmat Abdel-Maguid, told Mena most Soviet Jews would prefer to emigrate to the United States.

Mena said Shevardnadze, in response to a request from Abdel-Maguid, had agreed to raise with Washington the subject of preventing Soviet Jews from settling in the territories.



Reds rally

A traditional Indian woman dressed covering most of her face gazes vacantly while standing beside a flag of the communist party at a rally in New Delhi on Wednesday to protest against the sharp rise in food prices (Reuters wirephoto)

The number of Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel shot up dramatically in recent months after Moscow eased travel restrictions and Washington set quotas on the numbers it would allow to settle.

The Israeli government has predicted that around 150,000 Soviet Jews would enter Israel this year. 33,500 arrived during the first four months of 1990 — but so far only a few have settled in the occupied territories.

(Continued on Page 2)

Israelis, Iraq gird for attack

BAGHDAD, May 16, (AP): Officials said today that Iraq has started civil defence drills in its major cities to prepare citizens in case of a nuclear or chemical attack by Israel.

One official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the drills were "useful for both the authorities and the population to learn how to deal with such cases." But he would not discuss details of the preparations.

Residents in various cities said part of the drill included moving to huge concrete shelters where they stay for hours until a siren blows, signalling they are clear to leave.

They were also given gas masks to wear. Others said they were moved outside towns in fast buses in an exercise aimed at moving them from a site hit by a nuclear or chemical weapons.

President Saddam Hussein said in April that if Iraq was the target of a nuclear attack by Israel he would smash his country's chemical weapons arsenal.

Meanwhile, Israel's army, citing enhanced Arab chemical warfare capabilities, has stepped up plans to distribute gas masks nation-wide and has prepared television ads on how to use them.

When the army first gave out masks on a trial basis in 1979, the results showed the public did not take the threat seriously.

Masks were used for painting cars or worn to masquerade parties. Needless in the medical kits were used for drug games.

"In order to get public co-operation, there has to be a perceived threat," said an Israeli major who briefed a reporter on the programme. Under standing regulations he could not be named.

Today, Israelis appear to accept the possibility of a poison gas attack as part of a new Middle East reality.

Sammy Davis Jr dies



Song silenced

Sammy Davis Jr., the wiry song-and-dance man whose carefree charm and rags-to-riches story helped make him an entertainment institution, died today after an eight-month fight with cancer. He was 64.

Davis died at 5:59 am (1259 GMT) at his home in Beverly Hills, California, said his publicist Susan Reynolds. She would not discuss who was with him when he died.

"It's a shame. It would have been fantastic to see him at age 82 still enjoying performing for the people," Bill Cosby said in New York.

"I think in his 64 years he lived 100 years," Milton Berle said.

Polhill to lose larynx

WASHINGTON, May 16, (AP): Freed American hostage Robert Polhill has a cancerous growth on his left vocal cord and his entire larynx, or voice box, will be removed by surgeons on Thursday, doctors said today.

Polhill was released by his Shiite Muslim captors in Lebanon on April 22, and has spent most of the time since at Walter Reed. His raspy voice prompted an early discovery of the tumour, which proved malignant in biopsy tests, according to Col Russ Zajchuk.



Muppet creator dies

Muppets creator Jim Henson, whose Kermit the Frog and other beloved puppets entertained and educated millions of children world-wide, died Wednesday at a Manhattan hospital. He was 53.

Henson, who also was the voice of Kermit, died from a massive bacterial infection, said Kathleen Robinson, a spokeswoman at New York hospital. Henson had been admitted to the hospital on Tuesday, she said.

Assad, addressing the 10th congress of the National Union of Syrian Students, said the Arabs are "in a state of intellectual, psychological and political confusion and disarray."

The Syrian President said Arab states are still not aware of the dimensions of the problem.

"Syria has called, alarmed, warned and addressed others and is still doing so," Assad said. "Perhaps there is a need for more efforts."

Philippines, Subcontinent (Page 15)

Assad made no direct reference to his refusal to attend the Arab League summit. Efforts to end the rift between Syria and Iraq, have not succeeded.

The PLO, which is also at odds with Syria over its peace moves, called for the summit to discuss the hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews expected to immigrate to Israel over the next few years.

"Fulcrum Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat called for the summit to forge a united Arab stand on the issue before a superpower summit at the end of May."

Meanwhile, Al Seyassah has learned that the Moroccan monarch has been holding consultations with the various Arab countries.

Confidential sources said that King Hassan II may succeed in the last minute in convincing Syrian President Hafez Assad to attend the forthcoming Arab summit due to be held in Baghdad later this month.

Arafat said today he hoped Algeria could help persuade Assad to attend an Arab summit in Baghdad.

Syria's new parliament — to be elected on May 22 — will have one-third of its 250 seats reserved for independent members, Assad said.

Israelis war on children

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 16, (Reuters): A study sponsored by the Swedish Save the Children charity accused Israeli troops of systematic violence against Palestinian children during the Arab uprising in the occupied territories.

The 1,000-page report, released on Thursday (today), said 159 children under the age of 16 were killed in the first two years of the uprising and estimated that between 50,000 and 65,000 were injured by gunfire, beatings or tear-gas.

"The violence employed against Palestinian children, in the context of the Israeli military authorities' violent attempts to suppress the intifada (uprising), is seen to be severe, indiscriminate, multi-dimensional and recurrent," it said.

The conclusions sparked an immediate angry reaction from the Israeli army, given an advance copy by the author. An official military source said Palestinian leaders exploited children as front-line rioters and glorified them as martyrs.

(Continued on Page 2)



Assad waving to students in Damascus at the opening session of the Syrian Students Union in Damascus. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pakistan alert: Singh

US, Soviets bid to defuse tension
India rejects third-party mediation to solve Kashmir issue

NEW DELHI, May 16, (Agencies): Prime Minister V.P. Singh today told a parliamentary committee that Pakistan has put its military airfields on top alert, massed troops and moved ammunition along the international border, forcing India to take counter-steps.

State-run Doordarshan television quoted the

Indian leader as telling a parliamentary consultative committee that New Delhi cannot remain complacent to the Pakistani military buildup and has taken steps to deal with the situation.

Singh did not divulge details of steps taken by New Delhi.



Laurel accuses Aquino

MANILA, May 16, (AP): Vice-President Salvador Laurel today accused the government of trying to discredit opposition politicians by linking them to last December's failed coup.

Laurel made the comments before a commission established by President Corason Aquino to investigate the Dec 1-9 failed putsch, the bloodiest and strongest of six armed attempts to topple her government.

At least 113 people were killed and more than 600 injured in the uprising.

During an opening statement today, Laurel expressed "my unflinching and total support for democracy and to disassociate myself from any group seeking to advance their political objectives by violent or unconstitutional means."

Laurel claimed "there is an orchestrated attempt to implicate the members of the democratic opposition directly or indirectly by rumour or by innuendo" in the December attempt.

He called on Aquino to open a dialogue with recognised leaders of all opposition groups which forestall violence.

The vice-president broke with Aquino in 1987 over political and personal differences and later reorganised the Nacionalista Party as the major legal opposition group.

Laurel had left the Philippines for a private visit to London before the coup attempt. In an interview with the Associated Press in Hong Kong, where he was stranded on his return trip, Laurel was asked if he would serve in a military government.

US tells Manila

Don't measure ties in dollars

MANILA, May 16, (Reuters): The United States today bluntly told the Philippines not to measure friendship in dollars, but Manila said talks on the future of US military bases could be in danger unless a cash shortfall was paid.

The United States and the Philippines clashed over Manila's charges Washington was failing to pay more than \$200 million of the annual price for its largest military bases overseas.

But the United States said it was living up to its commitments, and providing additional assistance in the form of extra military equipment, trade credits, military medical equipment and food aid to the Philippines.

US negotiator Richard Armitage sharply told the Philippines not to measure friendship in dollars.

But Rafael Alunan, spokesman for the Philippine negotiating panel, said the US failure to fulfil financial commitments on the bases "could endanger the future of our talks with the United States."

(Full Report Page 15)

NEWSWATCH

Animal protest: Dozens of growling bears and chattering monkeys were paraded to the home of communist party at a rally in New Delhi on Wednesday to protest against the sharp rise in food prices (Reuters wirephoto)

Even snakes in their baskets were taken on the three-kilometre (two-mile) march, which caused traffic jams and some panic, forcing police to accompany the men and boys who earn their living with performing animals and reptiles. (AP)

Polls in united Yemen: South Yemeni leader Ali Salem Al Beidh has said that parliamentary elections in a planned united Yemen would be postponed, weakening hopes of newly-formed opposition parties to play an early active role.

Gulf exercise: Iranian Revolutionary Guards and regular forces launched a mock amphibious attack on a Gulf island during an air and naval exercise on Wednesday.

The Iranian news agency Irna said gunboats bombarded coastal positions and transport planes dropped paratroopers before marines landed on the island.

Hundreds executed in China: Amnesty International said on Wednesday it had received reports that hundreds of people had been secretly executed in China after Beijing brutally suppressed pro-democracy protests last June.

Details Page 6

Till death do us part

BURBANK, California, May 16, (AP): A "Romeo and Juliet" couple married for 53 years died together in their nursing home room on the same night.

Stanford Wirick, 86, and his wife, Guinevere, 83, were found in their bed at Le Bleu Chateau rest home yesterday morning. Husband and wife had broken their hips and had been in failing health.

"I can't mourn it, really. If one had died and left the other, it really would have been tragic. Godspeed to them," said relative Mazie Assay.

"They just went to bed in seemingly good shape last night and were both dead this morning," police Sgt. Don Goldberg He said.

South Africa opens public hospitals to all races

JOHANNESBURG, May 16, (AP): The government today declared that public hospitals would be open to all races, reversing its long-standing policy of segregated health services.

Health Minister Rana Venter told Parliament in Cape Town that all hospital beds must be accessible to all South African citizens for the country's health system to be run efficiently.

The health minister said the decision would allow patients currently staying at overcrowded black hospitals to be moved to underutilised white hospitals.

"What the government is doing now is to make use of the full capacity of the health facilities it has available for all people in South Africa," Venter said in an interview with the government-run South Africa Broadcasting Corp.

Johannesburg General Hospital, which is for whites, has an occupancy rate of around 50 per cent. But hundreds of black patients sleep on the floor of Baragwanath Hospital, the only such facility in Soweto, the huge black township outside Johannesburg.

At present, white hospitals like Johannesburg General treat blacks in need of emergency or specialised care, but have a policy of transferring them to black hospitals as soon as it's feasible.

Hospitals, like schools, neighbourhoods and other facilities, are segregated in South Africa under the government's apartheid policies.

The European Economic Community (EEC) will re-examine its anti-apartheid policy at a meeting in Dublin next month. Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins said after meeting South African President F. W. de Klerk today.

"We will discuss the situation, bearing in mind the developments that have taken place," Collins told reporters after the one-hour talks.

But he refused to speculate whether EEC foreign ministers, meeting in Dublin on June 18, would change their policy or drop any sanctions.

DAY BY DAY

ON Friday at Kuwait International Airport's parking lot there was only one cashier to attend to the hundreds of cars lined up.

Friday is a very busy day due to the many incoming and outgoing flights and this traffic jam caused considerable distress to the hurried drivers.

Holidays and important occasions should witness the presence of many more cashiers to avoid undue harassment and inconvenience to passengers — both incoming and outgoing, including those who need to accord courtesies to these passengers.

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INTERNATIONAL



Mubarak (left) points his finger during talks with Baker at the Egyptian ambassador's residence in Moscow yesterday (Reuters wirephoto)

Settlements

Earlier yesterday Egyptian President Mubarak and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev signed a declaration condemning the settlement of Soviet Jews in the territories.

In a dinner speech, Gorbachev described it as "immoral".

"Pushing people who resettle in Israel to this means to dangerously and immorally play with their fates," he said at the dinner in honour of Mubarak in the Kremlin.

"We urgently press for the Israeli leadership to give up these perfidious schemes. We insist that the UN Security Council take a decision, making it incumbent to observe international laws."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has ordered a massive cash

boost for Jewish settlement in the occupied territories — a day after agreeing to reopen Palestinian universities as a gesture of goodwill.

The United States, Israel's major ally and financial backer, opposes settlement as damaging to Middle East peace prospects. The 1.75 million Arabs of the West Bank and Gaza Strip see the 70,000 settlers in their midst as a provocation.

"The government is trying to satisfy everyone. They set up settlements for the right-wingers and open the universities to please the Americans," said Nabil Jabri, head of the board of trustees of Hebron's Islamic University.

Parliamentary sources said Shamir yesterday asked the House Finance Committee to release \$17.5

(Continued from Page 1)

million of contingency funds to build new settlements and improve infrastructure at existing sites in the occupied territories.

The committee is expected to debate the request today.

■ Palestinian nationalist leaders called today for a halt to Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel pending an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

"We call for a halt to the influx of Jewish immigrants as this issue is linked to the possibility of achieving a just and permanent peace," a statement issued by leading nationalist figures said.

■ Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek has told New York's Cardinal John O'Connor he was deeply offended by his labelling as "obscene" a Jewish settlement in the Christian quarter of Jerusalem's walled Old City.



An Indian policeman holds back an angry Muslim villager as he shouts at visiting Indian Home Minister Mulji Mohammed Sayeed (left) in the border town of Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

leads to a withdrawal of forces, if it leads to an end to the suppressive measures being taken by India in Kashmir," a senior Pakistani Foreign Ministry official said.

Pakistan remains willing to talk, but India has rejected a dialogue on the grounds that the Kashmir problem is an internal affair, he said.

The problem for both Pakistan and India, however, is they are locked into positions that are difficult to change for domestic political reasons, analysts say.

"Kashmir is irrevocably a part of India," the Indian official said. "If we let it go, it will be the end of Indian unity. What will be next, Punjab, Assam, Nagaland?"

"I think the American object is very clear. It is avoidance of war and not solving the Kashmir dispute. Pakistani analyst Mushahid Hussain said.

"There is very little they can do" because the positions are very wide and conflicting," he said. "There is no meeting ground."

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has called India's treatment of Kashmir's Muslim "oppression" and pledged full support to visiting Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

"We shall certainly go on with our efforts to rescue Muslims in Kashmir from this oppression," Rafsanjani said at a banquet given in Bhutto's honour last night.

"It is yet another manifestation of Iran's adherence to principles and of its solidarity with suppressed people," Bhutto told Rafsanjani.

She said "it is not possible that those with whom we have unbreakable bonds of religion, culture, history and kinship are being brutally suppressed for no crime other than demanding the expression of their right of self-determination."

A Pakistan government spokesman told reporters Iran's support was satisfactory. "Iran will support Pakistan at the Islamic foreign mini-

sters conference," he said.

An Iranian official said its foreign minister would not attend the conference because Tehran and Cairo did not have diplomatic relations but a lower-level Iranian delegation would attend and support Pakistan's stance over Kashmir.

"We will support Pakistan over the Kashmir issue," Mohammad Ali Nouri, a director in Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told Reuters.

Benazir, meanwhile, called for Islamic countries to support the people of Kashmir in a struggle for self-determination.

She arrived earlier in Turkey on the second leg of a tour of eight Middle East Muslim countries, after first visiting Iran.

Speaking at a lunch given by Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, Bhutto said: "The international community, particularly the Islamic countries, has to stand up and speak for the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Kashmir people and exercise their influence against the repression that has been unleashed on the Kashmiris."

She added: "The people of Kashmir are also presently waging a valiant struggle for their right of self-determination as envisaged in the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council."

"Their fight against ruthless use of force deserves sympathy and support of all freedom loving peoples."

A senior Pakistan Foreign Ministry official said Bhutto had briefed Akbulut about the situation in the Indian-ruled Kashmir and what he termed India's threats to Pakistan.

"I wish to express our deep appreciation for the stand taken by Turkey which reflects your concern over the developments in Kashmir," said Bhutto.

Earlier, Akbulut said: "our sincere desire is that (both sides act with composure and moderation to reduce the present tension.)"

Benazir Bhutto will pay an official two-day visit to Tunisia on Tuesday.

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Government strike cripples Managua

Chamorro appeals for US aid

MANAGUA, May 16, (AP): A government strike with resounding political overtones has virtually paralysed public services in Managua.

Nicaraguan and US officials accused the recently ousted Sandinista National Liberation Front of trying to undermine the 3-week-old government of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, a charge no Sandinista officials has denied publicly so far.

Neither Chamorro nor former President Daniel Ortega, leader of the Sandinistas, made a public statement about the walkouts yesterday. But Chamorro, in a cable to US President George Bush, appealed for a quick \$40 million to curb the economic crisis that led to the strikes while Congress considers a \$300 million aid request.



A riot policeman scuffles with a striking public sector worker at the entrance of the Foreign Ministry in Managua on Tuesday. The workers had occupied the building on May 12. The government of President Violeta Chamorro declared the strike illegal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Striking airport workers closed the international airport. Schools, banks and most communications were halted yesterday and only about 20 buses operated, stranding thousands.

Most government workers are Sandinistas left over from the previous government.

Public hospitals were open but one said it would limit treatment to the very old or young, pregnant women and emergency cases.

Telephone, telegraph and telex communications were dead, cutting off most of Nicaragua from the rest of the world. Communications workers allowed journalists to file stories but denied service to others.

Outgoing phone service even to Chamorro's offices was cut for several hours yesterday. The workers have demanded higher pay, but Chamorro, whose 14-party coalition defeated the Sandinistas Feb 25, is loathing as a major and growing target. Her government has declared the strikes illegal.

Shouts of "Violeta, start packing your bags," "the people own the government, not the bourgeoisie," and "not one step back," flew through muggy Managua streets yesterday. Police made only half-hearted attempts to remove workers from occupied government buildings.

At the ministries of agrarian reform and commerce and industry the police, most of whom were hired by the Sandinistas, joked with the strikers.

Vice President Virgilio Godoy said on the radio that the Sandinistas are "trying to overthrow President Chamorro."



Riot police use tear gas to force their way past striking workers at the Foreign Ministry in Managua, May 15. (Reuters wirephoto)

Better to let preemies die

More cost-effective

CHICAGO, May 16, (AP): Doctors must realize it is often better to let extremely small premature babies die, despite fears of lawsuits or outcry from lobbyists, two researchers say.

Medical costs nearing \$160,000 per infant and the chance that surviving babies will suffer lifelong health problems led to the conclusion by Dr. David K. Stevenson and Ernie W.D. Young, both of Stanford University.

The researchers, writing in the May issue of American journal of diseases of children, said an estimated \$2.6 billion annually is spent on neonatal intensive care in the United States.

Stevenson and Young said it would be more cost-effective to address "the root causes of prematurity — lack of prenatal care, poor nutrition in pregnant women, homelessness, and drug or alcohol addiction."

But doctors often feel pressured to order aggressive therapy for babies even when the treatment may not be beneficial, the researchers said.

"In part, this is due to the way in which fear of litigation causes medicine to be practiced in a defensive manner in this country," they wrote.

Special interest groups also may

influence doctors' decisions, the article says.

"We appear to have a more vigorous 'pro-life' lobby in this country than is evident in either Sweden or Britain," they wrote.

The researchers said a 1984 study found that the per-capita incidence of extremely premature, underweight infants in Great Britain and Sweden "was impressively lower than in the United States."

Taking issue with the researchers was Dr. Thomas G. Storch, an associate editor of the journal and a member of its editorial board. In an accompanying editorial, he wrote that the technology to achieve good results with the very small infants "is well within our grasp."

"Money should not be a consideration," Storch said yesterday in a telephone interview.

"There is money out there, and we as pediatricians need to become spokesmen to get the money out there rather than throw in the towel and start rationing health care," he said.

US flour mill employees who worked with grain pesticides for many years face a risk of cancer that can be many times greater than the risk faced by other grain industry workers, according to a study reported yesterday.

Bush personal worth \$2.3 m

WASHINGTON, May 16, (AP): President George Bush's personal worth is valued at \$2,352,500, most of it in a blind trust, and he has liabilities of just \$49,000, the White House says.

In addition to the blind trust, Bush's principal asset is his seaside home in Kennebunkport, Maine, which he valued at \$892,000 according to disclosure forms released yesterday. However, other estimates have put value of the ocean-side compound at more than \$3 million.

Vice President Dan Quayle and his wife Marilyn reported assets ranging from at least \$91,004 to \$1,045,000 or more. The Quayles' tax return, released last month, showed interest and dividend income of \$16,430, primarily from stock holdings in Central Newspapers Inc., a publishing company owned by Quayle's family.

The Quayles' only liability was the mortgage on their home in suburban McLean, Virginia, which they rent out while living in the vice presidential residence. The mortgage was listed as between \$100,001 to \$250,000. They paid off a promissory note of less than \$50,000 to Huntington newspapers on Feb 28, 1990.

Regulations permit federal officials to list assets and liabilities in ranges rather than precise dollars.

The disclosure forms showed that both the Bushes and the Quayles collected more than \$20,000 in all kinds of personal gifts, from cowboy boots, to evening bags to baseball cards.

They must publicly disclose any gifts from a single source valued at more than \$100.

Spokesmen for Bush and Quayle said many of the gifts were given away to family and friends, such as the 11 pairs of boots a Texan sent for the Bush grandchildren.

Bush and his wife Barbara received at least \$26,839 worth of such personal gifts last year, including a \$995 pair of cowboy boots and a box of glass Christmas ornaments and tinsel from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the forms showed.

Pay rise

Abidjan army recruits protest

ABIDJAN, May 16, (Reuters): Ivory Coast's main airport was closed and soldiers guarded key installations today as hundreds of army recruits demanding a pay rise careered through the city in commandeered cars, taxis and military vehicles.

Access to the airport was barred but an air force colonel at a roadblock said it had been taken over by the recruits. He said there had been some shooting in the air.

The airport, one of the busiest in West Africa, was closed, a police source said. One travel agent said soldiers had ordered airport personnel and passengers to leave.

Troops guarded other key installations, including the television and radio headquarters, diplomats and other sources said.

'Governments must do more'

Aviation security

WASHINGTON, May 16, (Reuters): Pan American World Airways, faulted by a presidential study into the 1988 bombing of its Flight 103 over the Scottish village of Lockerbie, said today that governments should shoulder more of the burden of aviation security.

In full-page advertisements in major US newspapers, Pan Am said governments of all nations should go beyond passive rule-making to develop a "truly international and effective security system."

The seven-member presidential commission on aviation security and terrorism, in a report on Tuesday, put much of the blame for the bombing on a "seriously flawed" aviation security system.

It said this began with lax security at Pan Am check-ins in London and Frankfurt where the flight originated, and was compounded by the Federal Aviation Administration's failure to enforce its own rules.

"The destruction of Flight 103 may well have been preventable," the commission said. The bomb, apparently containing semtex plastic explosive, was hidden in a cassette recorder that blew up over Lockerbie, killing 259 people on the plane and 11 on the ground.

"The commission's inquiry also finds that the US civil aviation security system is seriously flawed and has failed to provide the proper level of protection to the travelling public," the report said.

"I don't like the negative adjectives but they are a fact of life," said FAA administrator James Busey of the report, adding: "Mistakes were made."

Busey said in a statement that his agency "has done much to continually tighten the aviation security network."

The commission urged the United States to prepare for "pre-emptive or retaliatory military strikes against terrorist enclaves in nations that harbour them."

Its report was generally well received by US relatives of the victims who said the commission was leading the fight against international terrorism but the recommendation to use force was not received favourably.

Jim Swire, spokesman for the UK Families-Flight 103 Committee, said on Tuesday: "We are not happy with the idea of military attacks."

"Lockerbie was a revenge attack paid for by Iran. To kill

Iranians and Syrians in return is only going to make the situation worse and produce more grieving families."

Sir Hector Monro, the Member of Parliament for the area around the town of Lockerbie, where Pan Am Flight 103 crashed, said attacks on countries suspected of backing extremist groups could lead to war.

"I really don't think we, or the French or Germans, or Americans can start attacking other countries, presumably in the Middle East, on the suspicion a terrorist attack might take place," he said.

The Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command has repeatedly denied reports that it was responsible for the bombing.

At London's Heathrow Airport, where the doomed airliner took off on its flight to New York, security was said to have been tightened since the disaster.

A senior security manager told Britain's domestic news agency Press Association: "The checking procedures for both passengers and staff are amongst the most thorough in the world."

As the US presidential commission published its report, the British government was again accused of a cover-up in its handling of the bombing.

Swire said a public inquiry into the Lockerbie disaster was needed because the lessons of the disaster had not been learned.

"We believe there is a cover-up out of fear of ridicule," he said.

John Prescott, transport spokesman for the opposition Labour Party, said: "We are constantly in a cover-up."

The Department of Transport said two inquiries were under way in Britain. A parliamentary panel had completed its own report on the disaster and the Scottish legal authorities had also announced an inquiry, a spokeswoman said. Military force was opposed by relatives of British victims.

In its advertisement, Pan Am said it was not yet answering specific criticism by the commission or evaluating its recommendations.

But it said the US and another governments had failed to provide "meaningful support in combating terrorism directed against civil aviation."

Pan Am chairman Thomas Plaskett said yesterday the commission's report "unfairly characterises the Pan Am security system before, during and after Lockerbie."

Lords poised to thwart bill

War crimes trial

LONDON, May 16, (AP): Britain's unelected House of Lords is poised to kill government legislation to allow trials of suspected Nazi war criminals.

It would be the first time in modern history that the Lords, mostly hereditary aristocrats, have rejected outright a bill passed by the elected House of Commons.

Nazi hunters are distressed, but eminent lawyers in the Lords argue that fair trials are impossible at a distance of up to 50 years, that the crimes were not committed on British soil, and that retroactive legislation is naturally unjust.

But the expected rejection of the bill, in a Lords vote on June 4, has revived quarrels about the powers still vested in this unique collection of blue-bloods, bishops, jurists and recently ennobled politicians, all of whom owe their place in the upper chamber to birth or political patronage.

However, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government seems quietly relieved at the prospect of avoiding what critics call "show trials" of three ageing East European emigres.

Officials have said in unattributable briefings that if the Lords reject the war crimes bill at its most important legislative stage, the second reading, the Conservative government will

abandon it.

"I think the government will be only too pleased," Lord Ponsonby, 59, chief whip for the opposition Labour Party, said in an interview.

"But it disturbs me," added Ponsonby, who inherited his father's title in 1976. "I have always held that the non-elected House has no right to thwart the will of the elected House."

The Lord's power to kill legislation has gradually diminished in this century, and today they can do no more than delay bills for up to a year.

The Commons adopted the bill 348-123 in December, with Mrs Thatcher voting in favour. Party discipline was waived to allow lawmakers to vote as their conscience dictated.

Dropping the bill would make Britain the only World War II ally to take no action against war crimes suspects in its midst.

Australia and Canada are holding their first trials and the United States departs suspects for trial in Israel, including John Demjanjuk, whose appeal against a death sentence began this week.

In a first shot, the Lords on May 1, defeated 337-62. A separate government measure to allow Scottish courts to hear evidence by video links in war crimes trials.

Hubble telescope sees stars — finally

WASHINGTON, May 16, (AP): Hubble space telescope engineers gave an upbeat report yesterday: the telescope has found the stars it was supposed to find.

"For the first time we now are sure we know where we are pointing," said Ed Weiler, National Aeronautics and Space Administration programme scientist for the \$1.5 billion instrument. "We can point to a place in space and actually find the stars that are supposed to be there. Look up on them, measure them and use them for focusing."

Since it was set five into space from the space shuttle Discovery on April 25, the telescope has had one problem after another — troubles that scientists have called the thing pains of the most complex device ever put into space.

"Since the launch this has been the most exciting day," Weiler said. He said engineers at the Goddard space flight centre had succeeded twice in focusing the telescope and they can do it again.

The first photograph from the telescope had been expected a week after the launching, but that date has slipped time and again. Now engineers are talking cautiously of capturing the first image on Sunday.

Their focusing activities are akin to focusing a camera, said Weiler. "You focus where you think the focus is and go back, that's the process we are using," he said. In the case of the telescope, the secondary mirror is being moved a few microns — millionths of a metre — at a time.

Tax evasion charges

Fujimori under probe

LIMA, May 16, (AP): Peru's chief prosecutor said a court is investigating tax evasion charges lodged by a congressman against presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori, a centrist political newcomer favoured to win mid-June elections.

Fernando Olivera, head of a small centre-right party, accused Fujimori of paying taxes on only the \$18,000 of a home he sold in December for \$35,000.

Fujimori has not commented on Olivera's accusations. If charged and convicted, Fujimori faces up to six years in prison, prosecutor Pedro Mendez Jurado said yesterday.

"Even if he paid up now, he would still have to be sentenced for tax evasion" if found guilty of the charge, said Mendez.

Fujimori is favoured to win runoff elections against centre-right novelist Mario Vargas Llosa.

Tapeta residents accuse Doe soldiers of slaughtering neighbours

TAPETA, Liberia, May 16, (AP): President Samuel Doe has said his troops have held off attacking rebel strongholds to avoid bloodshed, but residents of rebel territory say government soldiers slaughtered their neighbours.

On a two-day trip conducted by Charles Taylor's rebels, journalists were shown a pile of 15 bodies and heard villagers tell of rape and killing.

The trip covered three counties comprising the country's main food-producing

and mining areas. The rebels were clearly in control of the region.

Villagers waved, danced and shouted support for rebels as cars draped with the rebels' red insignia drove through.

When Taylor drove into Tapeta, in a thirteen-vehicle convoy protected by 200 armed men and an aging anti-aircraft gun, scores of civilians waved palm fronds and welcomed him as a saviour.

"Our leader, Mr Taylor," they chanted. The trip began when reporters were met

by a representative of Taylor inside Ivory Coast on Sunday and escorted to a dense forest path and across St. John's river, which forms the frontier with Ivory Coast.

They were driven on Monday to within 30 miles (48 kilometres) of Buchanan.

No vehicles were seen except those driven by rebels. Crude roadblocks of rope with a red triangular flag were manned by villagers armed with shotguns.

Since Taylor's men invaded from Ivory Coast on Dec 24, more than 350,000 peo-

ple are estimated to have fled the fighting, more than half of them going into neighbouring Ivory Coast or Guinea.

Doe's troops have been accused of slaughtering civilians, particularly members of the Gio or Mano tribes, Taylor's tribal base.

On Monday, reporters were shown a pile of 15 corpses at the village of Saitom. Elizabeth Kpue, 27, said soldiers rounded up people and shot them before fleeing the advancing rebels.

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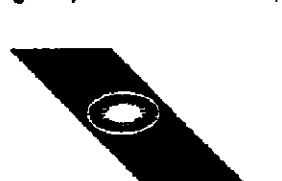


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Compromise on pollution

Environmentalists say it's sell-out to US

BERGEN, Norway, May 16, (Reuters) Environment ministers from 34 industrial states today finally agreed on a declaration on fighting pollution but were accused by activists of selling out to the United States.

A communiqué agreed after three days of talks bowed to a US refusal to make promise of new funds for Third World nations to protect the earth's ozone layer and it set no timetable for phasing out cases which scientists say could be wrecking the climate.

"This conference has been worse than a failure, it's been a setback," said Roger Wilson, a director of the Greenpeace environmental organisation. He said US pressure had blocked many nations' efforts to force a faster cleanup.

Around 200 activists with banners saying "no action, no future" demonstrated outside the hotel in Norway's west coast city of Bergen where the ministers, from East and West Europe and North America, met to vote on the final resolution.

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"I think we had a reasonable compromise," John Knauss, head of the US delegation, told Reuters.

The final declaration avoided a promise of "new and additional resources" to help developing nations combat pollution and instead spoke of finding "new ways and means of providing such resources."

But it also made an appeal "to strengthen international action to protect the ozone layer including, for example, through additional resources and technology transfer."

The United States was concerned that any commitment on the ozone layer could mean massive environmental aid in future.

It has refused to contribute to a fund, backed by many Western nations, of around \$250 million to help poor countries phase out poison gases eroding the ozone layer.

A conference in London next month is due to discuss a bid to phase out these gases.

David Rehling, an environmentalist chairing a meeting of non-government organisations in Bergen, said the ministers' declaration would discourage the Third World from taking environmental issues seriously.

"You can sum the conference up by the street slogan here — 'blah, blah, blah,'" he told a news conference.

Nations at the talks, the first meeting of East and West European environment ministers since the fall of the Berlin Wall, burn around 70 per cent of the world's annual use of fossil fuels.

Scientists say gases released from factories and cars could be building up in the atmosphere and raising temperatures.

This could turn farmland into deserts, melt polar icecaps and flood coastal areas.

The talks were one of four regional conferences aimed at preparing for global talks on protecting the environment in Brazil in 1992.

The conference also dodged setting a firm timetable for stabilising emissions of carbon dioxide, under pressure from the United States, Britain and Canada.

It merely said that "in the view of most countries (at the talks), such stabilisation at the latest by the year 2000 and at present levels must be the first step."

Knauss said the United States had not altered its position on carbon dioxide emissions since an international conference in the Netherlands last year.

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آسٹریلیائی ننگ رنگ (مقالہ) رزاقی منتقد کی ہاڑی ہے۔ بروجمہرات بابتیہ ماسی ۱۵۰۰ بوقت مارچ ۱۹۸۷

منہم بن سب سلطان صلاح الدین اویسی دکن پادشہ ہند ہندوستان جناب عابد علی خاں صاحب ہندوستان ہندوستان

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Mr Mohan Lal Nigam, Director, Solar Jung Museum

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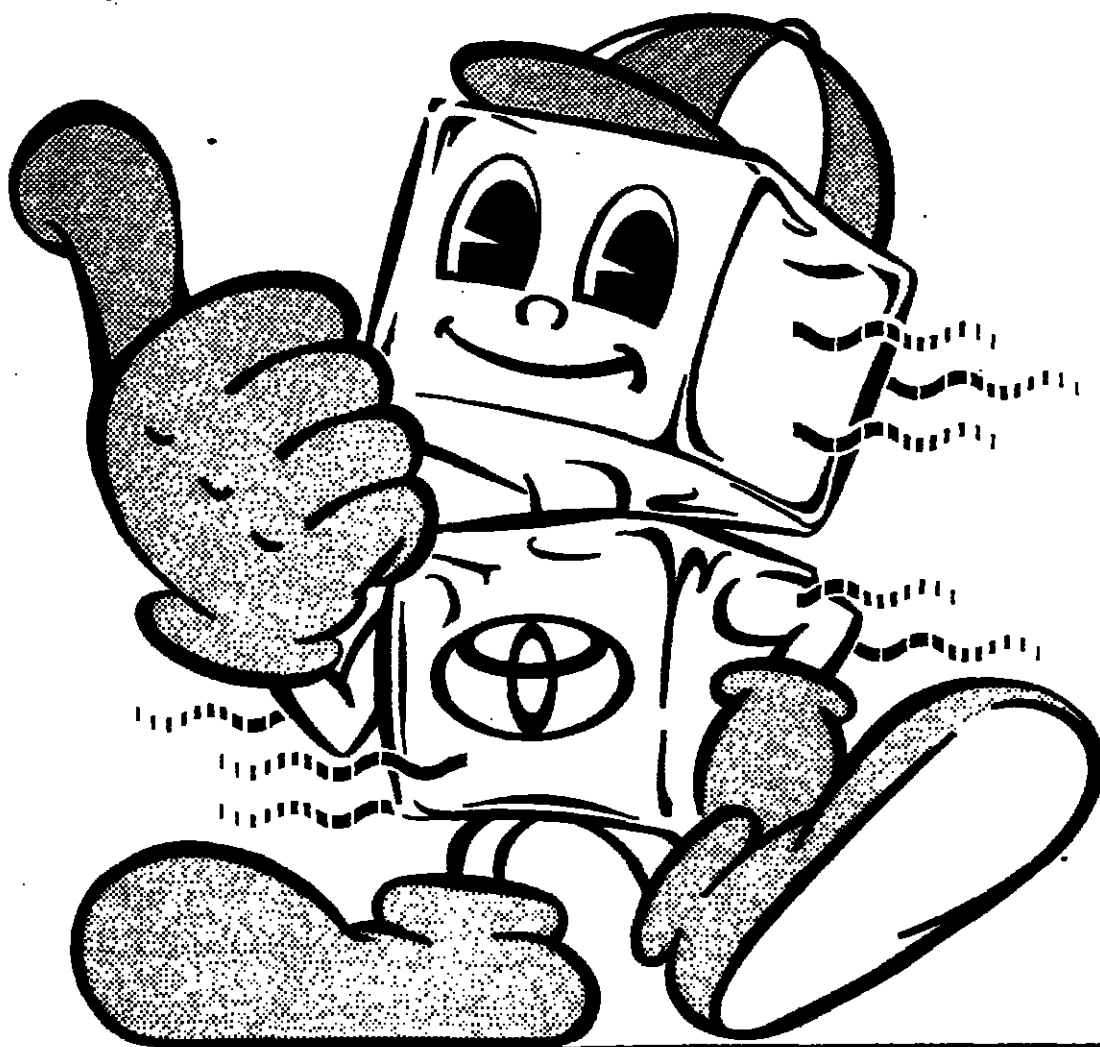
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Birendra still wields powers

KATHMANDU, May 16, (Reuters): King Birendra has agreed to become Nepal's constitutional monarch, but could still wield enough power to thwart the country's moves toward democracy, analysts and diplomats said today.

Birendra, absolute monarch of the world's only Hindu Kingdom until Nepal's constitution is rewritten, has promised to cooperate with Interim Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai to establish a multi-party democracy.

Yesterday, the king bowed to pressure and dissolved a constitutional panel he named without consulting Bhattarai, and agreed to let the prime minister suggest changes until a new constitution could be drafted within 90 days.

"The king has taken the steps and seems to be willing to shed his powers. I think he has made up his mind, he is going to have to live with it," one diplomat said.

But some Nepalese were still uneasy about the king exercising his powers under the old constitution.

Kusum Shrestha, a human-rights activist, said he believed a new constitution was needed to strengthen the government.

"Army and police apparatus is still with him (the king)," he said. "Three months is a long period. Anything can happen in three months."

Western diplomatic sources said powers would remain vested in the 45-year-old king unless the constitution were abrogated.

But they said it was significant he had invited the cabinet to suggest changes that would allow it to function more easily.

Birendra dissolved the seven-member constitutional panel and told Bhattarai to advise a group to draft a new constitution within 90 days that would include a constitutional monarchy under a multi-party system. Free elections have been promised within a year.

Democracy more important than an individual: Lama

DHARMSALA, India, May 16, (AP): The Dalai Lama said yesterday he was delighted with progress made over the last two days in reforming his increasingly ineffective government-in-exile despite conservative opposition to change. "Up to now everything has depended on me, but I am getting older," the 54-year-old Buddhist monk said in an interview.

"A democratic system of govern-

ment is more important than an individual person," he said.

On Monday, 368 representatives of the 120,000 overseas Tibetans elected for the first time the government-in-exile's Kashag, or cabinet. Previously they were nominated by the Dalai Lama.

But only three of the seven seats were filled in two rounds of balloting. Vote counting ended yesterday. Con-

servative opponents of the Dalai Lama's plan to separate himself from the day-to-day governing of the Tibetan movement handed in blank ballots and dropped out of the race for cabinet seats.

With a laugh, the Dalai Lama said he would be happy to work with a cabinet of three. "That is what the people wanted. We are on the road to democracy," he said.

Dalai Lama ordered the changes Friday when he dissolved the Kashag and the Assembly of Tibetan People's Deputies, or Parliament.

The spiritual and temporal leader of the world's 6 million Tibetans, said he wanted his movement to become more democratic.

Many Tibetans oppose the reforms because they fear the responsibility that democracy entails, said Tenzin Nam-

gyal Tethong, a newly-elected cabinet member.

In the past they thought the Dalai Lama would handle everything, now the people realize that their participation is also important," he said.

Tethong, a longtime Tibetan activist and currently the Dalai Lama's chief representative in Washington, is a first-time member of the cabinet. He is

joined by the Dalai Lama's younger sister, Jetsen Pema, known for her work with Tibetan children and in education, and Kelsang Yeshe, a former minister for culture and religious affairs.

Another reason for opposition to reforms is that many Tibetans view the Dalai Lama as a living god and feel his authority should not be challenged by a government outside his control.



Daring dissident

Exiled Chinese dissident Yan Jiaqi speaks to reporters after visiting the radio ship Goddess of Democracy yesterday. Yan said the communist Chinese leaders wouldn't dare take action against the vessel. (Reuters wirephoto)

Anti-govt protests

Seoul students clash with police

SEOUL, May 16, (AP): Thousands of radical students fought with riot police in at least five cities today, and a dissident group called for nationwide anti-government protests to mark the anniversary of a 1980 civil uprising, news reports said.

Also today, an estimated 24,000 workers ended their 2-week-old strike at the world's largest shipyard, but workers at the nation's leading car plant remained off the job for a second day.

The car plant and the shipyard in Ulsan, 320 kilometres (200 miles) southeast of Seoul, are subsidiaries of the Hyundai group, one of the largest conglomerates in South Korea.

The national news agency, Yonhap, said about 4,000 students, hurling rocks and firebombs, fought combat-clad riot police in Kwangju, the scene of a bloody 1980 anti-government revolt. Clashes also were reported in Seoul, Pusan, Cheju and Chonju.

In Kwangju, 250 kilometres (156 miles) south of Seoul, riot police fired tear-gas from armoured vans and stormed a university to disperse 2,000 students holding an anti-government rally, Yonhap said.

The students fought back with steel pipes, rocks and

firebombs. About 20 students and police were injured in the two-hour clash, Yonhap said. A student was wounded in the face by fragments of an exploding tear-gas grenade, it said.

Radical students and dissidents have announced they will mark the 10th anniversary on Friday of the 1980 civil rebellion in Kwangju with large anti-government protests, expected to attract some 100,000 people.

A major dissident group called the People's Alliance announced in Seoul today that it would organise anti-government protests in the capital and 16 other cities to mark the anniversary.

By official count, some 200 people were killed and more than 1,500 others injured in Kwangju when soldiers crushed a 10-day civil uprising that started on May 18, 1980. In Seoul today, four radical students, armed with firebombs, briefly seized the office of the Federation of Korean Industries, a major business organisation, demanding the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo.

In the southern city of Chonju, a opposition stronghold, about 600 students said they would boycott classes for three days, starting today, and they fought with police.

China charged of secret executions

Taiwan willing for talks 'as equals'

HONG KONG, May 16, (Reuters): Amnesty International accused China today of secretly executing hundreds of people in the wake of last year's democracy protests and demanded Beijing reveal the fate of tens of thousands of people it said were detained.

Meanwhile, President Lee Teng-Hui has for the first time said he is willing to hold talks with China but only "government to government, on an equal basis."

Lee said the two sides, bitter adversaries for more than 40 years, could hold talks "for the future and prosperity of all (Chinese) people," the office of the presidential spokesman said today.

Both sides say they are the only legitimate government of China.

Taipei labels the leadership in Beijing as "communist bandits" and Beijing dismisses Taiwan as an upstart province.

In a report issued in Hong Kong, the human rights group said secret executions after the bloody military suppression of the student-led pro-democracy movement last June had been extensive.

Amnesty said it had identified 650 names of people it knew were being held. It said tens of thousands were detained after troops and tanks launched the crackdown in Beijing's Tiananmen Square on June 4 when diplomats say hundreds, if not thousands, were killed.

Colonial scars are still visible

TOKYO, May 16, (AP): Yui, a spirited 16-year-old high school student, is raped and beaten by teenage thugs hired by the younger sister of her boyfriend.

Why? she's a Korean in Japan.

Yui is the heroine of "Yui's Town," a movie by Kim U Son, a lifelong Korean resident of Japan. Although the attack on Yui is fictional, discrimination against the about 700,000 Koreans who live in Japan is a fact, says Kim.

Acrimony between Japan and its neighbours on the Korean peninsula dates back centuries, and the scars are still visible from the period of 1910 to 1945, when Japan ruled Korea as a colony. Many of the Koreans who live in Japan today are either those brought here as forced labourers or their descendants.

On May 24, President Roh Tae-Woo of South Korea will visit Japan — only the second visit here by a South Korean President.

To pave the way for Roh's visit, the two countries agreed last month to throw out a controversial fingerprinting requirement for the most recent generation of Korean settlers in Japan and their descendants. The decision, backed by the two governments, affects only the grandchildren of those who registered as residents in 1971 — four infants.

Roh's trip was delayed when the late emperor Hirohito died to January 1989 and during February national elections that threatened to topple Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Later, Roh said he would cancel his trip unless the fingerprinting issue was resolved.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is expected to express strong regret for Japan's colonisation of Korea. Korean officials have requested an explicit apology.

"I think I should express frank regret about our mistakes in the past and apologise for them," Kaifu told the Japanese parliament yesterday. However, he did not say whether the emperor would also apologise.

The matter is sensitive for the Japanese, because it brings up questions about the emperor's role under the postwar constitution and about how much responsibility the late emperor Hirohito had for Japan's wartime actions.

The national police agency says it will provide tight security for Roh due to fears of extremist attacks.

About two-thirds of the Korean population in Japan support South Korea and one-third back North Korea. The two groups have little to do with each other, and both are targeted equally for discrimination.

Many Koreans in Japan have lived here their entire lives, but they cannot vote or apply for civil service jobs. They face deportation if they commit serious crimes, and find it almost impossible to obtain jobs as public school teachers. Like other foreigners in Japan, they are forced to register as aliens and submit to fingerprinting, and cannot become citizens without adopting Japanese names.

Outside the South Korean embassy in Tokyo, radical rightist groups regularly yell "Koreans go home" through loudspeakers. And, as in the movie "Yui's Town" there are many cases of Korean junior high and high school students being bullied.

Ironically for those who see the movie as an indictment of a racist culture, Kim says he made "Yui's Town" to show a brighter side of the Korean people.

"The stereotypes about Koreans in Japan are that they feel nothing but bitterness and hatred toward Japanese because they are objects of discrimination," said the 37-year-old director.

"I wanted to make a movie that showed flesh-and-blood people. Koreans who can delight in life and communicate on an equal footing with Japanese," said Kim, who shot the movie in a Korean ghetto in Osaka, where he was born.



Too remorseful

A North Korean woman agent, freed after being sentenced to death for bombing a South Korean airliner in 1987, has become a Christian and says she is too remorseful to marry.

"I am filled with too much remorse for having killed so many people and I have no time yet to think about getting married," Kim Hyun-Hui told reporters yesterday after her first church service.

Kim, 28, was pardoned by President Roh Tae-Woo in April after being sentenced to death for planting bombs on a Korean Airlines Boeing 707 on a Baghdad-Seoul flight in November 1987.

The plane exploded near the Burmese coast, killing all 115 on board.

Roh pardoned Kim on grounds that she was both a pawn and a victim of the communist North, the South's implacable foe since the 1950-53 Korean war.

The former child actress says the attack was ordered by Kim Jong-il, son and heir-designate of North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, to score countries away from the 1988 Seoul Olympics, which Pyongyang boycotted. North Korea denies involvement.

The former agent, long-haired and wearing a blue-and-white dress, tearfully told the church congregation she did not deserve to live. "Picture shows her looking through a hymn book yesterday in her first trip to a church in Seoul (Reuters wirephoto)

Illegal workers

Japan accused

TOKYO, May 16, (AP): Japanese officials are violating the human rights of illegal foreign workers by threatening them with prison and fines under a law taking effect June 1, a Pakistani worker charged today.

"They treat us like jungle animals," Shahab Ahmed, one of the estimated 100,000 undocumented foreign workers in Japan, said at a news conference. "We are bound here — like we are living in a zoo."

In fact, he said, the new law applies only to employers and brokers who hire illegal workers after June 1.

"My guess is they are trying to scare all the undocumented workers out of the country," said Watanabe. He said the misinformation has been amplified by the English-language press, leading hundreds of fearful workers to call his Yokohama-based association.

Thousands of illegal workers are rushing to turn themselves in and be deported before the law takes effect, officials said.

Justice Ministry spokesman Takashi Nakamura said he had heard no reports of harassment against foreign workers. He said the punishments under the new law apply only to employers or brokers, but that the workers themselves may be jailed, fined or deported as under the current law.

In 1989, 16,608 people were convicted of working illegally in Japan, the ministry said. Few workers have been punished, however, Watanabe said.

Unlike many developed countries, Japan does not allow foreigners to come in as unskilled labourers. But thousands of Chinese, Iranians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, Indians and others enter on tourist or student visas, then stay on to work in low-paying factory or construction jobs after their visas expire.

Women from the Philippines, South Korea and Thailand work illegally in Japan's massive sex industry, and many Americans without proper documentation are teaching English. Although the number of illegal workers is officially estimated at 102,000, the number may be as high as 300,000, Watanabe said.

Ahmed said he earns about 270,000 yen (\$1,777) a month doing clerical work for a plastics company.

Roh's visit must be made "not only from a broad standpoint but also in balanced judgment of our national interests," Lee said.

But the spokesman indicated South Korea would develop a response if Japan rejected a demand for a clean-cut apology for wrongs committed while Korea was under Japanese colonial rule from 1910 to 1945. He did not elaborate.

The organisation said it had written to Chinese Premier Li Peng giving the list of 650 names and had called on the Beijing leadership to reveal what had happened to all those detained.

"One year after the killings in Beijing, the fate of those prisoners is still veiled in official secrecy — but they are not forgotten. We know some of their names and we want to know what has happened to them," said Amnesty.

It said many of the people detained had been arrested simply for exercising their rights.

It said it wanted news of Liu Xiaobo, who was one of four people known to have started a hunger strike in Tiananmen Square on June 2 and who later negotiated with the military for the students to withdraw.

It said Liu had urged that violence not be used and that students return weapons they had seized from the army.

"He was accused of instigating the protests and supporting armed resistance. He is reportedly held in Qincheng prison and as far as Amnesty International knows, has not yet been charged or tried," said the report.

It also named Long Xianping, a teacher who had not been involved in the pro-democracy movement before June 4 but who was arrested later for making a speech condemning the crackdown.

It said she had been charged with counter-revolutionary incitement and jailed for two years.

The London-based pressure group also cited 16 prisoners, including Tibetan independence activists, religious leaders and supporters of the 1970s democracy movement there who were still being held in jail.

"As these cases illustrate, the pro-democracy arrests are part of a pattern of repression in China going back decades," it said.

"The government's secrecy about the prisoners arrested last year is particularly disturbing because torture and unfair trials are routine in China," it said.

"Safeguards against torture are insufficient and there is no presumption of innocence in Chinese law. Trials are often a formality, with the verdict decided beforehand."

Last week China said it had freed 211 people it described as law-breakers involved in last year's protests, a move which diplomats in Beijing saw as China's most significant step towards restoring its image since Tiananmen Square.

China has begun what is expected to be dozens of prosecutions of detained dissident intellectuals and students who led last year's pro-democracy movement, with lengthy prison terms looming for those convicted, Chinese sources say.

At least 10 students and a prominent human rights activist, Ren Wanding, have been formally arrested in recent weeks, the sources said. They are among hundreds of detainees at Qincheng prison, a maximum-security facility in Beijing's northern suburbs.

The former head of the New China News Agency in Hong Kong, China's de facto ambassador to the British colony for seven years, is seeking political asylum in the United States; a Japanese newspaper reported today.

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Election violence kills 2 in Romania

BUCHAREST, May 16, (Reuters): Two Romanian opposition party members have been killed and 113 others injured in election campaign violence, an opposition leader said today.

Corneliu Coposu told Romanian television the dead and injured were all members of the National Peasants Party he leads and that 162 party bases around the country had been attacked. He did not say who was responsible for the attacks.

"The whole election period has been a campaign of intimidation and denigration," he said.

The ruling National Salvation Front on Monday dismissed opposition parties' accusations that its members are responsible for the violence as part of a political strategy.

Adrian Nastase, spokesman for the front, told a news conference there had been some "regrettable incidents" which the front condemned.

But the accusations of intimidation were "a well-planned, premeditated strategy" to create the impression Romania was unstable, he said.

Nastase predicted the front and its presidential candidate Ion Iliescu would win about 60 per cent of the vote in Sunday's elections, the first free polls in Romania for 50 years.

Bucharest city Mayor Dan Predescu called on demonstrators who have occupied part of the city centre for the past 24 days to leave, saying there was a risk of an epidemic.

The protesters claim the front has hijacked the December revolution that ousted communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, and demand the resignation of Iliescu, the interim president.

"City hall appeals to the organisers of the demonstration in university square to understand the very great danger of creating a source of an epidemic, and to immediately leave the square," Predescu said.

Romanian television has begun a last-minute lesson in democracy for voters who have not seen a free election for more than 50 years but must now choose between 80 parties and a host of independents.

State-run television began its lessons yesterday and will repeat them at peak viewing hours every day until Sunday when the 16 million voters will choose a president and a two-chamber parliament.

Virgil Magureanu, the head of Romania's newly-created intelligence service, said on Tuesday one of its first tasks would be to trace millions of dollars stashed away abroad by former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Discarding his veil of secrecy at an international news conference, he pledged to run an intelligence service responsible to parliament.

"One of our first tasks will be to try and uncover basic secrets of the past regime, such as where Ceausescu's secret foreign bank accounts are which unfortunately has not been clearly solved at present," he said.

At his trial last December Ceausescu was accused of having defrauded the country of one billion dollars.

Estonia guards take over buildings

It was a 'coup attempt,' Premier Savisaar tells Baker

RIGA, USSR, May 16, (Agencies): Guards surrounded government buildings in the secessionist republic of Estonia today after Soviet loyalists converged on Parliament in what the premier called a failed "coup attempt."

Lawmakers in neighbouring Lithuania began a closed-door debate on new proposals designed to end an impasse with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev over their republic's independence campaign.

Calm was reported in all three Baltic republics, the day after thousands of anti-independence protesters converged on the Parliament buildings in Riga, the capital of

Latvia, and Tallinn, the capital of Estonia.

In Moscow, US Secretary of State James Baker said he would press Soviet leaders to explain why they have not begun talks with Baltic leaders. Baker is on a four-day visit aimed at making progress on arms control agreements before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President Bush meet in Washington later this month.

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been campaigning to regain the independence they lost when they were annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940.



People clash in Riga over difference of opinions whether Latvia should become an independent state. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yeltsin may be elected president of Russia

MOSCOW, May 16, (Reuters): Radical politician Boris Yeltsin appeared to have enough votes for a fighting chance of being elected president of Russia, the largest Soviet republic, at the new session of its parliament which opened today.

Yeltsin, a fierce critic of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev since he was dropped from the Communist Party politburo two years ago, is immensely popular among ordinary Russians for his speeches attacking privilege.

He said this week he was also backed by one third of the 1,068 members of the Congress of people's Deputies of the Russian Federation, or parliament.

He said Gorbachev was trying to put pressure on the one third of deputies as yet uncommitted to Yeltsin or his chief opponent, Russian Prime Minister Alexander Vlasov.

Other likely candidates for the post, nominally the chairmanship of the Supreme Soviet or inner, standing parliament, are party Central Committee secretary Yuri Minayenkov and Ivan Poloskov, arch-conservative Party chief of the southern Russian city of Krasnodar.

"I think Yeltsin stands about a 50-50 chance — there is some hope," said Mikhail Bocharov, head of an industrial firm and a solid Yeltsin supporter. "Certainly there is plenty of pressure and cam-

paigning against him. Electing him would change our entire working system and our relationships with Gorbachev."

Yeltsin easily won his seat in parliament in his home area of Sverdlovsk in March, his popularity undented by a series of scandals including allegations — which he did not deny — that he tried to kill himself last year.

Deputies and Soviet journalists speculated that Yeltsin's high profile could attract still more votes to upset Vlasov, a metallurgist, junior member of the politburo and professional party worker since 1961.

Still big gaps towards Start

Baker in summit talks

MOSCOW, May 16, (Agencies): US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze agreed today that they still faced substantial problems in reaching a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (Start).

Arriving for the start of three days crucial talks with Baker, Shevardnadze said the Soviet side would present new proposals but gave no details.

"Indeed, there is still substantive work to be done and this is what we are going to begin to do now," he said.

US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed to try to achieve a broad Start accord in time for their Washington summit when they last met in Malta in December.

But with less than two weeks to go until the May 30 summit opens, there are still major gaps on how to deal with air- and sea-launched cruise missiles in the treaty as well as a number of secondary questions.

Baker disclosed earlier today that the United States had presented new Start proposals when he met Shevardnadze in Bonn earlier this month and had received preliminary Soviet responses.

But these had not been sufficient to bridge the gap.

"What I received in Bonn from the secretary of state was useful and I believe our response was constructive, but indeed there is still substantive work to be done and this is what we are going to begin to do now," Shevardnadze said.

Both ministers stressed the importance of resolving the issues so that their leaders could announce to the world a treaty enshrining deep cuts in several categories of nuclear weapons — 50 per cent in some cases.

"It's very important we resolve these issues if we possibly can, but there is a good bit of work still to do," Baker said.

Baker said he would press Soviet leaders of the Baltic republics pushing for independence.

"It is not encouraging," Baker said before going into talks with Egyptian President Hosni



Baker waves

Mubarak, who also is visiting Moscow. "I am referring to the fact that we would like to see a dialogue with respect to the situation in the Baltics. That dialogue has not yet developed."

After meeting with Mubarak, Baker began four days of talks with Shevardnadze to prepare for the summit.

Baker, who also will meet Friday with Gorbachev, hoped to revive stalemate arms-control talks and also to press the Soviets to take steps to peacefully end the confrontation with the Baltic republics.

Shevardnadze told reporters that because "we are able to discuss any problem shows we have reached a new frontier."

He also pledged to try to speed work on the arms-control agreements that were to serve as a centrepiece for the summit. "We have been working very intensively," Shevardnadze said.

Asked if the Soviets had retreated from their past positions, as some US officials insist, Shevardnadze replied through an interpreter, "I don't think so, this is the view of those who really don't know what's happening."

Baker said the effort now to bridge differences on arms control "is very important when you consider we have only two weeks to go."

Referring to the situation in the Baltics, Baker said: "It's not encouraging to us to see the absence of a dialogue between leaders there and the Kremlin."

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will visit Minnesota and California early next month after four days of talks with President George Bush, the White House said yesterday.

Soviet security forces

35,000 people added

WASHINGTON, May 16, (Reuters): The Soviet Union has added 35,000 people to its internal security forces in the past two months by re-assigning military personnel from Eastern Europe, the Washington Times newspaper reported today.

It quoted unnamed US intelligence officials as saying the additions brought the number of internal security forces to 385,000, including special riot control units and prison camp guards.

The newspaper also said the Ministry of Internal Affairs was upgrading arms and equipment for its troops "in anticipation of further internal conflicts due to economic shortages and ethnic and political unrest."

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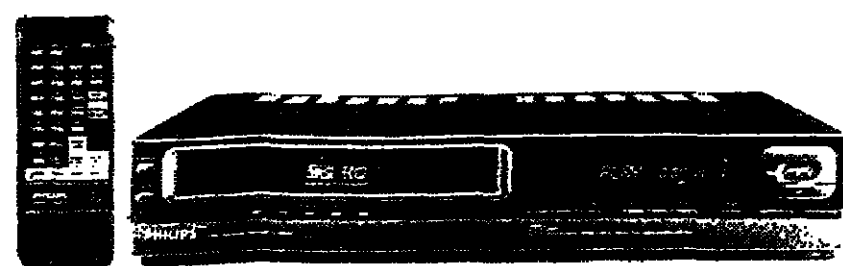
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INTERNATIONAL/MIDEAST

World News Roundup

America

Hookers preying on old men

Crack-addicted prostitutes have been preying on elderly men, hanging around senior citizens centres, when social security checks arrive and sometimes enticing them to smoke crack, said a New York state report admitted lacking in corroboration.

The State Division of Substance Abuse Service's most recent report on New York City drug-use trends also said prostitutes used six to gain access to and take over elderly men's apartments.

The report said it is not clear how widespread the problems are and William Hopkins, the DASA's chief research unit's chief ethnographer, was quick to say he was unable to cite specific instances or say where the problem was most prevalent. (UPI)

2 students shot dead

Two students, Brian Beeder and James Clevenger, both 19, were shot dead on Tuesday in their Montana State University dormitory room, and police arrested a third student for the deaths about two hours later after a high-speed chase.

Police said they had no motive for the killings, which shattered the normal calm on the tree-lined university campus set in the rocky mountains of western Montana state. (Reuters)

4 sentenced in aliens' death

Four Texans have received sentences ranging from probation to 18 months in prison in the deaths of five illegal aliens asphyxiated inside a fumigated railroad car.

The defendants sentenced Tuesday had been indicted on alien smuggling charges but pleaded guilty to lesser offenses in a plea bargain.

The victims, five people from Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador, died in October after being locked inside a trailer containing flour that had been fumigated with phostoxin, an insecticide deadly to humans. (AP)

Bias crime: A Vietnamese man whose skull cracked during a racially charged weekend confrontation with a group of black teenagers underwent surgery Tuesday to repair the fracture, a hospital spokesman said.

Cao An Tuan, 36, of Brooklyn, was in stable condition and doing well, said Kings county hospital spokesman Phil Petrie.

Police classified the attack early Sunday as a bias crime because, although it began spontaneously, it degenerated into racial name-calling and violence between the man who was attacked and two Vietnamese friends and the group of black teens. (AP)

Attempt to bomb: Two Idaho men with ties to the white-supremacist movement planned to bomb Korean businesses, a Jewish synagogue and bars popular with blacks and homosexuals, an FBI agent says in a government complaint.

The two were arrested Saturday near a motel south of Seattle just hours before they planned to detonate a bomb at a popular gay club, Thomas Triner, FBI special agent stationed in Tacoma, said in an affidavit. (AP)

Abortion battle in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania voters have set the stage for an unusual governor's race between an anti-abortion democrat, Governor Robert P. Casey, and a pro-choice republican.

In Nebraska, three Democrats are locked in a tight race to challenge Governor Kay Orr, who won the Republican primary handily on Tuesday. (AP)

Navy budget review: A top US Defence Department official said Tuesday that a major review of navy programmes will likely have no effect on plans to buy attack submarines and guided-missile destroyers in 1991.

Gerald Cann, an assistant secretary of the navy, told a Senate panel that he doubts the Defence Department will propose a cut in the number of Seawolf SSN-21 submarines and Arleigh Burke DDG-51 destroyers after the review is completed. (AP)

H-46 helicopters grounded: In the latest of a series of problems involving US military helicopters, the Defence Department said on Tuesday the navy and marine corps had grounded all of their 342 H-46 cargo and troop-carrying helicopters for safety reasons.

Department spokesman Pete Williams told reporters the two rotor helicopters built by Boeing Vertol were grounded late on Monday to fix a rear transmission problem. (Reuters)

Invited by mistake: The Simon Wiesenthal Centre said Tuesday it inadvertently invited Friedrich Males to be vice-chairman of an event that will commemorate the holocaust.

Males, president of Northwest Airlines, resigned from George Bush's presidential campaign in September 1988 after admitting he had drawn up a list of Jewish officials in the bureau of labour statistics in 1971.

Males has since told numerous Jewish groups that he is not anti-Semitic. He said he had acted under intense pressure from president Richard Nixon, who thought a "Jewish cabal" was trying to undercut his record on the economy. (AP)

Rescue satellite - for a price: Nasa said Tuesday it will send up a shuttle to rescue a communications satellite left stranding by a useless, low orbit, provided the satellite's owner pays for the \$100 million plus mission.

"It looks doable. It basically comes down to a question on how they feel about the costs versus the risks," said William D. Green, a Nasa payload manager. (AP)

Europe

Spanish hunger strikers dies

One of a group of convicted terrorists who began a hunger strike six months ago to protest prison conditions died Wednesday in Madrid, Spain, of a heart attack in a local hospital, officials said.

The Interior Ministry immediately issued an alert to police to be on the lookout for reprisal attacks, a spokesman said.

The Justice Ministry said Jose Manuel Sevillano Martin, a member of the tiny extreme-left wing Grupo popular, was serving a 24-year sentence for terrorism, had been transferred to Gregorio Marañon Hospital from prison Tuesday because of his weakened condition. (AP)

Jovic accused of threatening Croatia: splits deepen in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE, May 16 (Reuters): Political splits widened in deeply divided Yugoslavia today after a leading Croatian politician accused the country's new president of threatening his republic.

Franjo Tudjman, head of the Croatian Democratic Union which won recent free elections in the republic, attacked President Borisav Jovic for accusing Croatia of pushing Yugoslavia towards civil war and disintegration by demanding more independence.

Tudjman made his comments just hours after Jovic, a Serb, took office. His remarks showed how difficult it will be for Yugoslavia's leaders

to reach consensus in the multi-ethnic country which is divided into a non-communist north-west and a communist-southern half.

The accusations opened a dangerous row between Croatia and Serbia, the two biggest and most powerful republics. Politicians and diplomats say the future of Yugoslavia could hang on their relationship, the Balkan federation's traditional linchpin.

Referring to Jovic's attack on Croatia's plans to seek greater autonomy, Tudjman told Croatian television late yesterday: "That part of the speech was not only threatening but contradictory."

"In Croatia democratic processes and democratic striving have won and there is no force that could stop democracy," said Tudjman, and there is no force that could stop democracy," said Tudjman, who is expected to become Croatia's president when his party officially takes power in republic.

Stipe Suvac, Croatia's representative on the eight-man collective state presidency headed by Jovic, had earlier dissociated himself from the president's comments in his inaugural speech.

Premier-designate Lojze Peterle, head of Slovenia's Christian Democratic Party, informed the state presidency that he had formed a cabinet already approved by Demos, a six-party coalition that won last month's first free elections for the republic's Parliament, the Vecerje Novosti daily reported.

Among those listed for cabinet posts in Slovenia's new government is Janez Jansa, a prominent former anti-communist dissident who was sentenced to 18 months in jail in 1988 for allegedly revealing military secrets. He is slated to be Slovenia's new defence minister.

Move aimed at improving trade ties

Tehran, EEC hold talks

DUBLIN, May 16 (AP): Iranian and European Economic Community officials met today for nearly three hours at Iran's request, raising hopes that progress might be made toward freeing Western hostages in Lebanon.

Hussein Mousavian, Iran's top official on West European affairs, swept through the gates of medieval Dublin Castle in a motorcade to meet officials from Ireland, France and Italy.

He made no comment and there were no statements issued after the meeting, but the Iranian embassy scheduled a news conference for later today.

Before going to Dublin castle, Mousavian met separately with Irish government officials.

The meeting was the first with officials of the 12-nation European Economic Community since Iran appointed an ambassador to the EEC last March in a move aimed at improving trade relations with the West.

Irish officials said before the talks began that they were likely to focus on Iran's hopes for increased trade, but they also planned to raise the plight of the hostages believed held by pro-Iranian Muslim groups in Lebanon.

The meeting lasted for nearly three hours. It was relatively low-level, involving Foreign Ministry political directors — Padraig Murphy of Ireland,

Bertrand Dufourcq of France and Enzo Perlot of Italy.

Ireland took over the EEC's six-month rotating presidency from France in January and Italy will take it next.

Paul Cooper, brother of British businessman Roger Cooper who has been jailed without trial in Tehran for five years, arrived in Dublin from Britain to appeal to Mousavian for his brother's release.

"As far as my brother is concerned, there has been a great miscarriage of justice," said Cooper. "I don't blame Iran, this type of thing can happen anywhere."

Referring to the united might of the Arabs and Iran, Salehabadi said, "once Arabs and the Islamic Republic of Iran are united, no doubt foreign forces would leave the Gulf waters and would never dream of intervening in these waters."

Iran has repeatedly stressed that the Gulf should be policed only by the regional countries, and resents the presence of US or other Western warships which occasionally sail through the Gulf.

Another parliamentarian, Saeed Rafaei Khorasani, member of the Parliament's foreign relations commission, told Abar that Saddam's letter was serious, but offered nothing new.

Sadeq Khalkhali, another member of the Majlis, or Parliament, said that Saddam himself had written the letter, and signed it "Hussein, a servant of God."

He noted the Iraqi leader had expressed hope his government would "not be provoked" into another war with Iran by unidentified others and that no war would erupt between the two.

"Saddam has implicitly confessed that he did not favour the war and had been used as a tool to wage the war on Iran," Irna quoted Khalkhali as telling Abar.

He added that in response to the letter, "Tehran had stressed Saddam had initiated the war, and therefore burdened responsibility for shedding the blood of the Muslim Iranian and Iraqi peoples," Irna said.

An estimated one million people were either killed or wounded during the eight-year war, halted by a ceasefire in 1988.

Khalkhali's remarks to the newspaper were reported by the national news agency Irna.

Saddam in an unprecedented letter invited Iranian president to face-to-face negotiations aimed at finding a permanent solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

The US "big daddy" attitude means Iran will not resume ties with Washington despite their settlement of financial claims dating from the 1979 Islamic revolution, the Tehran Times said today.

In the first reaction from Tehran to the weekend agreement setting some 2,750 financial claims, the paper said the accord did not amount to a goodwill gesture from Washington.

"The important thing, however, is that the accord opens the way for talks to settle the \$11-billion Iranian claim against the US related to military agreements violated by America after the success of the Islamic revolution," it said.

Payment for the broken military contracts "may be considered a US goodwill gesture," said the English-language daily, which is close to President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Washington disputes Iran's claim, saying the military equipment undelivered because of the revolution is not worth more than \$1 billion.

Tehran Times said the United States had shown too much hostility to Iran to make early resumption of relations likely.

Three die, 53 hurt in Israeli bus crash

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 16 (Reuters): Three Israeli soldiers were killed and 53 wounded when an army bus overturned near the southern city of BeerSheva today, the army said.

A military statement said one soldier was in critical condition and five others remained in hospital. The other 47 were released after treatment.

Police said there was no evidence of sabotage.



Floodwaters expected

Water from a swollen reservoir tumbled through floodgates in an ever more powerful flow Wednesday, threatening to swamp 200 square miles (520 square kilometres) of southeastern Texas.

Parts of Arkansas flooded since May 1 were declared a disaster area Tuesday by President George Bush as national guardsmen worked to shore up a weakened levee protecting a small town from the Red river, which climbed toward a 45-year high.

The Trinity river in Texas was expected to crest Wednesday as the floodwaters churned southward, flooding areas where some 7,000 residents were warned to evacuate. It was the worst flooding in Texas in 80 years.

The Trinity river authority on Tuesday released a record 88,000 cubic feet (2,492 cubic metres) per second of water through the gates of the Lake Livingston dam.

Discharges Wednesday were to exceed that, said Grady Manis, the authority's southern region manager. He said higher levels were likely to be sustained for six to eight days. (Reuters wirephoto)

Asia

Aborigines like jail: An official report says Australia's Aborigines receive better care in prison than at home and do not see incarceration as a deterrent.

But Aborigine leaders blasted suggestions that Aborigines liked being in jail.

The Queensland Corrective Services Commission said in a report Tuesday night to the state Parliament that prison provided better housing, education, medical and recreational facilities than most Aborigine prisoners experience outside. (AP)

Thais set up task force: Thailand is to set up a task force to combat a spate of gangster style killings of businessmen and influential local figures, government officials said on Wednesday.

The plan was announced after gunmen claimed their latest victim in Chon Buri, a booming east coast province where many of the murders have occurred. (Reuters)

Greenpeace fire: A suspicious fire early Wednesday morning wrecked a building in which the environmental group Greenpeace was setting up its Melbourne headquarters, fire department officials said.

District fire officer Alan Quinton said there were "suspicious circumstances" surrounding the fire in the Melbourne suburb of Fitzroy North. He said police and fire brigade experts were investigating the cause.

The blaze destroyed about half of the first floor of the building, which used to house Fitzroy fire department headquarters. It now is also occupied by the squatters union, which finds accommodation for homeless people. (AP)

Thais seek backing: Thailand, locked in a battle with the United States over its ban on foreign cigarettes, has won a promise from the World Health Organisation (WHO) to consider whether to back the import restrictions.

Thailand failed to win immediate support at a WHO annual assembly for a resolution urging members not to coerce countries into importing foreign cigarettes. (Reuters)

Latin America

Camarena probe: A relative of a former Mexican president acted as link between Mexican government and was present at discussions on the kidnapping of a US agent, a prosecutor said on Tuesday.

Ruben Zuno Arce, brother-in-law of former Mexican President Luis Echeverria, even gave an interrogator specific instructions on how the agent, Enrique Camarena, should be questioned, assistant US attorney John Carlton said.

Camarena was kidnapped in Guadalajara on Feb. 7, 1985. His mutilated body was found after prosecutors allege, he was tortured to reveal what he knew about drug connections. (Reuters)

Dominicans go to vote: Thirty international observers have come to watch Dominicans vote Wednesday for one of two octogenarians who will likely be their next president.

The candidates, President Joaquin Balaguer and former president Juan Bosch, were barred by law from campaigning Tuesday on the eve of what is expected to be a close election.

Under the country's strict election law, radio, television and newspapers carried no campaign commercials Tuesday and the electoral commission said broadcast media must suspend newscasts for the day. (AP)

US condemns Cuba: The US House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved a resolution Tuesday condemning the government of Cuba for human rights abuses.

"It appears that the Castro regime is not impressed by the movement world-wide to promote basic human rights," said Congressman Chris Smith, sponsor of the resolution. (AP)

Church suspends preparations: Cuba's Catholic church said on Tuesday it was suspending public preparations for a visit by Pope John Paul II to Cuba until a firm date for the visit was fixed.

Responding to the move, a high-ranking government official said Cuba's formal invitation for the Pope visit still stood and the two sides were negotiating a suitable date. (Reuters)

YF-22 fighter

The Pentagon released details of its planned Air Force fighter jet for the 21st century May 15, and said that 750 of the speedy "Stealth" aircraft could cost \$63.5b. This aircraft's concept depicts the YF-22 developed by the Lockheed General Dynamics Boeing team, one of the two contracting teams vying for the Defence Department contract. (Reuters wirephoto)

Golden Rose award

John Daves of Great Britain's Thames Television holds up his Golden Rose that he won for his work in the film "Mr Bean" at the Rose D'Or festival in Montreux, Switzerland, May 15. (Reuters wirephoto)

Iran slams 'big daddy' attitude

NICOSIA, May 16 (AP): An Iranian newspaper said today that the next round of peace talks between Iran and Iraq will likely be held in Moscow, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the Farsi-language Abar also carried comments by three Iranian parliamentarians who had studied a recent letter to Iran by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein calling for fresh diplomatic efforts to break a 21-month deadlock in peace talks.

One parliamentarian, Qorbani Salehabadi, told Abar, "at present we are determined to work for establishment of a permanent and lasting peace and consider war as the last option and not the first one." Irna said.



Seized parts

A journalist takes photos of a part of a shipment of machine parts to Iraq seized at Frankfurt airport on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Iraq tried 'to copy Brazil missile'

Baghdad denies

BRASILIA, May 16 (AP): Brazilian scientists are collaborating with the Iraqi government to copy a missile developed by Brazil's Air Force, media sources reported this week.

But when contacted yesterday by the Associated Press, the story was denied by the Iraqi embassy and Air Force Ministry.

According to the reports, which appeared in the Rio daily O Globo and the major news-weekly Veja, the Iraqis want to copy the "Piranha," air-to-air missile, similar to the US "Sidewinder."

The rocket is guided by infrared sensors that are drawn by the heat emitted from the engine of enemy planes.

The "Piranha" was developed ten years ago by the Air Force Ministry's Aerospace Technical Centre, in collaboration with private firms. But the missile was never produced due to budgetary problems.

Braxil, which has built the AMX sub-sonic fighter, planned on arming the plane with the "Piranha."

The press accounts said a private Brazilian firm identified as "Hop" sent 23 technicians to Baghdad last year to develop a missile prototype, baptised with the new name of "Mol."

All the technicians were reportedly engineers that had once worked for the Aerospace Technical Centre, who were hired with the agreement that they reveal no details about the project.

The press accounts said in addition to copying the "Piranha," the technicians were also attempting to improve the range and upgrade the explosive capacity of the Soviet "Scud" missile.

Libya today welcomed a call by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to free the Middle East of destructive nuclear and chemical weapons.

The Libyan news agency Jana, said Libya "has always called for a ban on the use of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear, chemical and biological."

It said Libya "announces its support for the initiative by President Mubarak because it eliminates the dangers of the outbreak of a destructive war in the region."

Experts suspect that tons of machinery seized recently at Frankfurt airport are parts for an Iraq "super cannon," West German television said yesterday.

Customs authorities seized 17 cases containing 37 tons of machinery and hydraulic equipment destined for Iraq, officials said.

Frankfurt chief prosecutor Hubert Harth said yesterday authorities were investigating whether the seized equipment was linked to the "super cannon."

Swiss authorities yesterday impounded machine parts due to be exported to Iraq on suspicion they contravened export laws, Swiss state television said.

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E. Beirut rivals battle; 4 killed

BEIRUT, May 16. (Agencies): Rival Christian forces fought tank, rocket and artillery battles in and around East Beirut for an eighth day today, killing four people and wounding 23.

The casualties raised the overall toll to 1,026 dead and 2,753 injured since the showdown between troops of rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militiamen broke out Jan 30.

In south Lebanon, police reported seven people were wounded in a sudden flare-up between rival Shiite Muslim factions loyal to Iran and Syria, using rocket-propelled grenades and machine-gun fire.

In the Christian enclave, the thuds of exploding shell fire reverberated across East Beirut as the bombardment raged from nightfall yesterday to mid-afternoon today, trapping thousands of civilians in underground shelters.

Smoke billowed from apartment buildings in East Beirut's residential district of Ashrafieh, Geagea's main stronghold, and the Aoun-controlled, pine-covered Metn mountains, as both sides lobbed tank, rocket and artillery fire on each other's positions.

"We don't want Aoun or Geagea. I wish you would go to hell. You're killing our children. You're starving us and you're kidnapping our men," said a weeping woman on Geagea's Lebanese Broadcasting Corp. television during last night's newscast.

Aoun accused the United States today of covering the influx of arms to his foe Lebanese Forces militia via the Mediterranean, but failed to back up his charge with proofs.

"Right now, the Lebanese Forces are providing themselves with weapons and ammunition through a sea line protected by the United States," said Aoun during a news conference at his bunker at the presidential palace of Baabda.

Aoun did not say how the US was protecting arms supplies by sea, but he appeared hinting at the Mediterranean-based Sixth Fleet.

The general charged that US Ambassador John McCarthy was personally involved in the alleged operations.

The conflict, the worst intra-Christian confrontation in the nation's 15-year-old civil war, has forced more than 400,000 of the enclave's one million inhabitants to flee. Material damage has been estimated at one billion dollars.

Aoun today was quoted by the conservative Ad-Diyar newspaper as denying he has offered to step aside if the Maronite Catholic Synod of Archbishops under Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir asked him to.

"I am staying at Baabda to welcome Geagea's fighters here," Aoun told Ad-Diyar in an interview, referring to the presidential palace.

Change; warning to FLN

ALGIERS, May 16. (Reuters): Algeria's ruling party for 27 years should undergo radical changes to survive in the country's emerging multi-party democracy, a senior official has warned.

M'hamed Yazid, director of the National Institute for Global Strategic Studies, said the only chance left for the National Liberation Front (FLN) was a "revolution in its midst."

"Either a neo-FLN emerges in the coming months or it's the end of the (party) line," Yazid, a senior member of the FLN, told a news conference yesterday.

Algeria abandoned the 27-year-old system of one-party rule by the FLN last year and called for the country's first free local elections on June 12.

Most observers say the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) will emerge as the strongest opposition party in the polls.

The non-fundamentalist opposition is split among communists, social democrats and parties based in Berber-speaking regions. No single party is likely to match the FIS.

Yazid said the Western media had exaggerated the strength of "forces of ignorance and intolerance," an obvious reference to Muslim fundamentalists.

The FIS says it supports political pluralism within the framework of Islam but opponents suspect it would curtail multi-party democracy if in power.



President Bush and Tunisian President Ben Ali (left) wave on Tuesday as the Tunisian President arrives at the White House for a meeting on Middle East issues. Bush welcomed President Ali by reaffirming the relations between the two countries, which were still sound and growing. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bush, Ben Ali talk on ME

WASHINGTON, May 16. (UPI): Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali called on the United States yesterday to persuade Israel to "respond positively to bold initiatives" taken by the Palestinians.

In an exchange of toasts with President George Bush at a White House state dinner held in his honour, Ben Ali, head of the five-member Arab Maghreb Union, said the United States can make a difference in the struggle for Middle East peace.

"We believe that the position it enjoys, the influence it exerts... the United States can persuade Israel to respond positively to bold initiatives taken

by the Palestinian leadership... and to recognise the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people," Ben Ali said.

Bush, in his toast, praised Ben Ali as a bold leader and said, "Tunisia today serves as a model for pragmatic change in the Arab world."

Earlier in the day, Bush and Ben Ali met and reviewed ways to move the Middle East peace process forward and expressed concerns about Russian Jewish immigrants settling in Israeli occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

John Kelly, assistant secretary of state for Mid-

dle East affairs, said that Bush reaffirmed his position that the Soviet emigres have a right to relocate in Israel, but within the borders before the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

The leaders met in private for about 20 minutes before being joined by their advisers.

"The president expressed his concern about immigration in the occupied territories," he said after Ben Ali brought the subject up.

He said that both leaders agreed to "try to move the Middle East peace process" and discussed it in detail.

18 Arabs injured by Israeli firing

Activists kill a collaborator

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 16. (Agencies): Palestinians said Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 18 Arabs in clashes in the occupied territories today.

Twelve Arabs were wounded by gunfire in a confrontation between soldiers and activists in the West Bank village of Tubas, near Nablus, they said.

The army said it found the body of a Palestinian killed by fellow Arabs for alleged collaboration with the security forces.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, Palestinians said Ahmed Abu Nijma, 30, was killed by activists who suspected he collaborated with Israeli security forces.

Three Palestinians were wounded in Jenin and three in the Gaza Strip, Arab reports said.

The mayor of an Arab town in the occupied West Bank accused Israeli soldiers of scrawling anti-Muslim slogans on a mosque.

Tulkarm Mayor Hilmi Hanoun said he had protested in a telegram to the Israeli West Bank civil administration about the vandalism which he said was unprecedented in his town.

"Between midnight and four in the morning bad words were written on the door and the wall of the mosque. They were very bad words against Muslims in Hebrew," Hanoun told Reuters.

Palestinians said they had no explanation for the sudden flareup of intra-Arab violence. Since the beginning of the year, an average of 10 Palestinians per month have been killed by fellow Arabs on suspicion of aiding Israel.

The body of Nijma was found dumped near his home in Jenin early today, Arab reporters said. Nijma's hands were tied behind his back, and there were signs of violence on the body, they said.

The reporters said masked men had abducted Nijma Monday night, adding that he had been interrogated by Palestinian militants in the past on suspicion of collaboration.

Yesterday, the bodies of three Palestinians described by Arab sources as suspected collaborators were found in separate West Bank locations.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Pahlavi criticises West: The son of the late Shah of Iran has attacked some Western states for making "cynical compromises" with the Iranian government, especially on the release of Western hostages held by pro-Iranian groups.

In an interview published on Tuesday by the Rome daily Il Messaggero, Reza Pahlavi singled out US officials who he said "never tire from repeating their willingness to negotiate with those who are holding the hostages. Everyone knows the Iranians want something in exchange."

He added: "I would like to see the West practice what it preaches and promote in a serious manner the cause of freedom and human rights... the people of Iran should know that their desperate condition is not forgotten and is not the object of cynical compromises." (Reuters)

Egypt warns Islamists: Egypt warned Islamic fundamentalists on Wednesday it would not tolerate the kind of religious violence that rocked a southern Oasis village last month.

Minister of Information Safwat Sharif told the Middle East news agency that a cabinet meeting on Wednesday had discussed "recent events in Fayoum governorate committed by some extremist elements."

"The cabinet stressed that it would not relax in confronting breaches of the law, threats to the stability of citizens or attempts at extortion and terrorism to impose ideas on society," he said. (Reuters)

Anglo-Egyptian exercises: British and Egyptian military units will stage joint manoeuvres in Egypt for two weeks, starting Friday, the Egyptian armed forces said Wednesday.

Dubbed "Sharp Sword," it will be the second Anglo-Egyptian exercise since British troops ended a 25-year military presence in Egypt in 1966. The first war games, involving several hundred troops from each side, were in the fall of 1983 in Egypt's western desert. (AP)

Egypt to host: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Wednesday suggested setting a preparatory committee to hold an international conference of artists, saying that Egypt was prepared to host the committee's first meeting.

Mubarak's suggestion came during a meeting with Soviet writers and artists figures early Wednesday at a 19th-century mansion in downtown Moscow. (Kuna)

Klerk turns down invitation: Israel invited South African President F.W. de Klerk to come to the Jewish state on his way back from Washington next month, but South Africa turned down the offer, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

De Klerk, who became president last September, is currently on a five-day European tour and is scheduled to meet with US President George Bush in Washington on June 18. (AP)

Finland major transit for Jews

STOCKHOLM, May 16. (AP): Israeli and Finnish authorities are completing a plan to transit thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel through a small airport on the Finnish-Soviet border, officials said today.

The operation would make Finland the fourth major route for Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union, along with Hungary, Romania and Poland, the sources said. They spoke on condition they were not identified.

Under the plan, convoys of Finnish buses will start early in June to shuttle the emigrants from the Soviet Union to Lappeenranta, a Finnish town of 54,000 people, about 12 miles (20 kms) from the Soviet border.

Israeli chartered aircraft will fly them directly to Tel Aviv within hours of their arrival in Finland, said the sources, speaking by telephone from Finland.

A report that Lappeenranta would become an air bridge for Soviet Jews also appeared in Helsinki's Sanomat today. Finland's leading daily newspaper quoted unnamed Israeli sources.

Airport officials and the mayor in Lappeenranta said they had no information.

Seppo Nevala, assistant chief of the Finnish security police, told Associated Press, "We know that such plans are afoot" for the transit of Soviet Jews.

"We, too, have been involved in arrangements on our own part," Nevala said. He declined to give further details.

The sources said plans call for the transit of several hundred emigrants every month in the first stage, and possibly thousands monthly later on.

Tens of thousands of Jews in Leningrad, the Baltic states and the western Soviet Union reportedly have registered for exit permits, or expressed a desire to leave.

Israel said about 10,500 Soviet Jews arrived in April, a monthly record since the Soviet Union opened the gates last year to most Jews who want to leave.

The Finns announced in March they had agreed to let Soviet Jews pass through their territory, but the negotiations for mass transit were held in strict secrecy in the face of Arab opposition. Reports from Israel on the subject were quashed by military censorship.

The sources claimed Finland received explicit threats of terrorist reprisals. They did not say by whom or to whom the threats were made.

Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat sent a top envoy, Bassam Abu Sharif, to Helsinki last month with a personal message to President Mauno Koivisto to urge the Finns to abandon the project.

Jewish migration to Israel Stability endangered

AS charges are raised with increasing intensity throughout the Arab world that Soviet Jewish migration to Israel may endanger political stability, the loudest pleas have ironically originated from Israel's politically moderate next-door neighbour — Jordan.

King Hussein has vehemently pressed the United States to help stave off what he perceives as a tidal wave of West Bank immigration, and has held talks with several Arab leaders to urge an emergency Arab summit to co-ordinate an appropriate response to Moscow.

The roots of Hussein's concerns run much deeper than the mere arrival of Soviet Jews in Israel. The king believes that new West Bank settlement likely to result from the influx will encourage more Palestinians to migrate to the East Bank. Those migrants would arrive on the heels of a flow of Palestinian labourers returning to Jordan from lost jobs in the Gulf.

Nearly 24,000 Palestinians left the West Bank for Jordan in 1989 alone because of political unrest, adding to a community whose population of 1.5 million already comprises roughly 50 per cent of the Jordanian populace.

Since Israel's war for independence, Hussein — and before him, King Abdullah — has sought to contain the Palestinian nationalist presence in his midst. His relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation have fluctuated between cold and downright frigid. The crackdown on Palestinian nationalists in "Black September," 1970, has never been totally forgotten, let alone forgiven.

As the possibility nears of negotiations on creation of a Palestinian "entity" on the West Bank, trepidation reigns in Jordan's Parliament, as in Israel's Knesset. Even senior PLO official Salah Khalaf's assertion that the Palestinians support "an independent state, but in confederation with Jordan," provides Jordanian leaders with little solace. For in the long run, the Palestinians of Nablus and the Palestinians of Amman will always share more culturally and historically with each other than with Hussein's ruling Bedouin Hashemite clan.

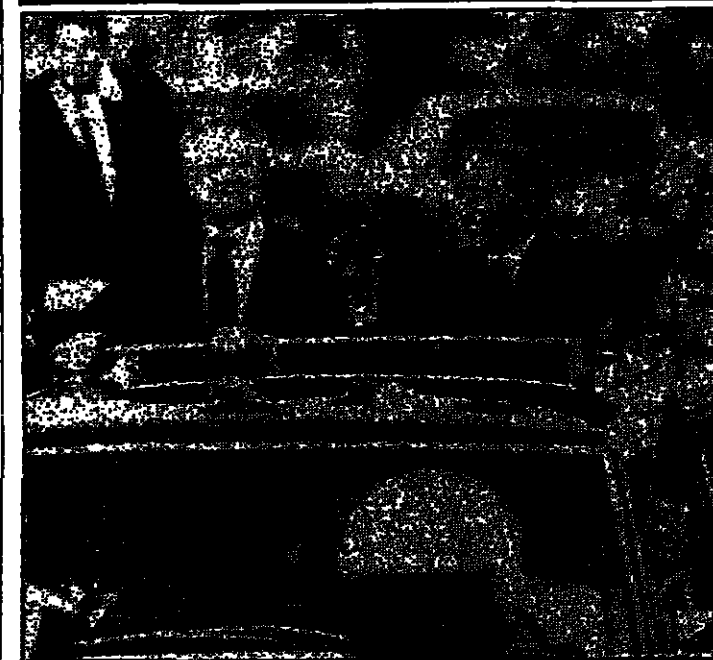
It is not surprising, then, that Hussein view an incursion of more Palestinians to Jordan, as a



King Hussein

national crisis? Most observers believe that Hussein's fears of large numbers of Soviet Jews flooding the West Bank have little foundation. Only 2 to 5 per cent of the 50,000 to 100,000 emigres expected in 1990 are likely to pursue that option. Still, the lure of inexpensive housing in such developments as Maaleh Adumim, but a stone's throw from occupied Jerusalem, shouldn't be discounted. In a region where perception often becomes reality, Western states must be sensitive to Jordanian concerns.

The Bush administration should continue to press the Kremlin to allow a free flow of Jewish emigrants to Israel via direct air flights, particularly with reports of heightened anti-Semitism emanating from Moscow.



Soares on the move

President Mario Soares of Portugal arrived in Rabat on Tuesday for a six-day official visit during which he will have political talks with King Hassan II, notably about the situation in Angola.

In an interview with the official Moroccan media, Soares said he would discuss the Angola situation with the King who has worked for a settlement between the Luanda government and Unita rebels led by Jonas Savimbi.

Soares said talks between the Luanda and Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) had made some progress but they were "difficult, slow and complex. There are many questions but I think more progress is going to be made."

Other topics he plans to raise with the King include the situations in the Middle East and North Africa, and western Mediterranean security.

Soares was greeted at the airport by King Hassan, members of the government led by Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki, palace dignitaries and military leaders.

In the picture, Portuguese President Mario Soares (left) and King Hassan II of Morocco stand in an open limousine as the motor guard drives into central Rabat soon after Soares' arrival. (Reuters wirephoto)

E. Germany asks Syria

Extradite Brunner

EAST BERLIN, May 16. (Reuters): East Germany is asking Syria to extradite suspected Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner.

Brunner, accused of deporting thousands of Jews to death camps, the East German Foreign Ministry said today.

"The GDR (East German) ambassador in Damascus has been given the task of handing over this request from the prosecutor general," a spokesman said.

It was East Germany's first

formal request for extradition of a suspected Nazi war criminal and came as it was trying to establish diplomatic ties with Israel.

Ministry sources said it was not clear whether Ambassador Karl-Heinz Lugenheim had handed over the request.

French Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld tracked Brunner, who is aged about 78, to Syria 18 years ago and describes him as the most important Nazi war criminal still alive.

Begin hospitalised for tests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 16. (AP): Former prime minister Menachem Begin was hospitalised today after complaining of weakness, a hospital official said.

Begin, 76, who led Israel to peace with Egypt and war in Lebanon, was last hospitalised in August 1989 for a treatment of salt shortage in his system.

"Begin did not feel well this morning. A doctor who checked him had an impression that he needs to be hospitalised," Dr Motti Lifshitz, deputy director of Jerusalem's

Shaarei Tzedek Hospital, said on Israeli army radio.

"He did not feel well. I cannot give details because Begin is now a private citizen and we don't release information about our patients to the public," Lifshitz said.

"The tests will determine how we shall proceed," Lifshitz said.

Hospital spokesman Devorah Waysman told the Associated Press that Begin arrived in an ambulance with members of his family and was hospitalised in the geriatric department.

Chadian troops kill 17 Sudanese

KHARTOUM, May 16. (AP): Chadian government troops have burned down 18 villages in western Sudan and killed 17 of its people before withdrawing the area, Sudanese officials said yesterday.

Gen. Tiganni Adam Al Tahir, member of the 15-man ruling military junta, told the official Sudan News Agency (Suna) that Chadian troops which crossed western Sudan last week in pursuit of Chadian rebels, have pulled out of the region but did not say when or give any further details.

Suna said Al Tahir made the statement following a meeting in Khartoum with a delegation from the western Sudan region of Darfur where the Chadian incursion took place.

The statement said without elaboration that the Sudanese government would compensate those affected by the Chadian raid. A government statement had earlier demanded compensation from Chad.

Ibrahim Idris, head of the Darfur delegation that met Al Tahir, told the Associated Press that Chadian troops have burned down 18 villages in Froung area north of Kutum and killed 17 persons and kidnapped eight others.

The New Horizon, a government English-language weekly, said on Monday that 3,000 Chadian troops broke into a hospital and killed and wounded rebel Chadians in Kutum, 150 miles (240 km) inside Sudan. The Chadian troops were chasing rebels across their country's eastern border.

"The wounded men of the opposition were arrested inside the (Kutum) hospital by the Chadian government troops and were executed, the paper said.

It did not specify how many were killed or when the incident happened.

SPLA Israel training

KHARTOUM, May 16. (Reuters): Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Salihouli yesterday accused Israel of training rebels fighting government troops in south Sudan.

"We are starting to sense Israel has entered the conflict," Salihouli told Reuters. "There is a hand with more experience than the (rebel) Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) showed in the past, especially in recent weeks."

The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 to end what it regards as domination by the Muslim north of the mainly Christian and animist south.

The Israeli ambassador to Ethiopia denied today Sudanese charges that his country was training anti-government rebels in south Sudan.

Premier warns of impact of alien ideologies

Curriculum to benefit tradition

KUWAIT, May 16, (Kuna): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday urged re-evaluation of textbooks and school curriculums at various academic levels so as to shield the young generation against alien theories and ideologies that run counter to the Islamic faith.

"It's in the best interest of the Arab nation that, now and in the future, we handpick curriculums that benefit our tradi-

tions and customs...to opt for the good ones and reject the bad," Sheikh Saad told a group of Arab academics whom he granted an audience at his Bayan Palace Diwan.

His Highness the Crown Prince added that the Arab nation is facing a multitude of challenges.

He also warned that a serious threat comes from the impact of foreign informa-

tion which, he said, primarily aims at obliterating the Arab identity across the Arab world.

Sheikh Saad was addressing heads and members of delegations participating in an ongoing Arab education conference which is discussing "contemporary challenges in the Arab world and school curriculums." The event is organised by the Kuwaiti Teachers Society.

He added that the "challenges", pour-

ing in from East and West, are designed to crack the Arab world and deepen inter-Arab differences so that the nation would be too preoccupied to take good care of the education of its young generations.

Sheikh Saad hoped that Arab countries would join forces to stand up to those challenges and co-operate between them for the attainment of their common national goals.

Retroactive Amiri grant for state sponsored minors

Social security for all nationals

AN Amiri grant, with retroactive effect from last January, will be paid for every minor sponsored by the Public Authority for Minors Affairs, according to the deputy director-general of the authority, Abdul Muhsein Al Mijhem.

Payments will be released as of the beginning of next month, the official added.

The authority is undertaking a comprehensive development plan to meet with the rapid developments of the new decade, Mijhem said and added that he is satisfied with the new reception system at the authority which is scientifically oriented to finalise formalities of the public. The authority is endeavouring to open branches in all the governorates, he commented.

The authority is now in the final stages of building its permanent premises inside Kuwait City. The investment of capital of minors within the framework of the Islamic sharia is the project the authority is according top priority and is supported by the minister of justice. Basically, the project aims at achieving the highest rate of returns with the lowest level of risks. Appreciable returns were realised last year on investments related to minors, Mijhem said.

has borne the debts of 283 families indebted to the Savings and Credit Bank.

The authority offers financial and social aid to needy families and minors by granting them monthly payments and also disburses funds to minors for different purposes.

The authority, Mijhem said, cares for 15,497 minors belonging to 4,438 families and supervises their school programmes locally and those studying abroad. The authority purchases a total of 19 real estates at a cost of KD2,540,620 and sold 65 real estates for KD8,435,300 on behalf of minors. In this respect, the authority allocates a budget of KD300,000 to maintain houses of needy minors and carried out new construction projects valued at KD8,667,788.

through co-operation with the Ministry of Interior. These include combatting beggary, and offering rehabilitation courses to individuals to become productive and join the main stream of society.

Problems

He pointed out that the only problems that his department encountered was the insistence by some to obtain ministry aid although they are not qualified while others fail to collect their monthly aid on time.

He stressed the existing close co-operation with the Ministry of Justice, and the Social Service Department in the field of conducting social research studies on people with different personal status.

He said that aid endorsed to divorced women will be suspended if there has been any change in their social situation. However, he said that a Kuwaiti woman divorced by her non-Kuwaiti husband is covered for help under the public aid code No. 22/78, and she has the right to a rental allowance.

A total of 10,689 families receive social aid comprising 18,521 members. This aid is intended to support aged people, students, labour disabilities, orphans, patients, prisoners, widows, divorcees and others who have so far totalled 3,514 the official said.

He added that new centres have been set up in Bayan, Fintas, Ardiya to encourage divorced women to acquire skills that fit their background and help them qualify for productive jobs to improve their social status.

NEWS IN BRIEF

GCC traffic meet

DOHA, May 16, (Kuna): The eighth conference of directors of traffic departments in member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) was inaugurated here yesterday.

The participants of the two-day conference will review a number of issues including the recommendations submitted by the GCC's Secretariat-General, the resolutions adopted by the GCC interior ministers on traffic issues as well as other issues pertaining to traffic accidents.

Naval anniversary

KUALA LUMPUR, May 16, (Kuna): Kuwaiti chief of the naval force, Col Qais Al Saleh arrived here yesterday to attend the 56th anniversary of the Royal Malaysian Navy.

Accompanied by two high-ranking naval officials, Col Qais will be in Malaysia for about a week.

He told Kuna soon after arrival that he was pleased to be invited for the celebrations, beginning tomorrow.

He said Kuwait naval force had very close co-operation with its Malaysian counterpart, especially in the training field.

He added since 1979, a good number of Kuwait naval crews were trained in Malaysia.

The highlight of the celebrations will be the international royal fleet review at the Penang Port, northwest of here.

Some 60 naval vessels from 22 nations will take part in the historic event.

Saleh received

KUWAIT, May 16, (Kuna): Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed Al Jaber received yesterday secretary-general of the follow-up bureau of the Arab Gulf Labour and Social Affairs Ministers Council, Kamel Saleh Al Saleh.

Saleh, who is currently on a visit to Kuwait which coincides with the tenth anniversary of establishing the follow-up bureau, presented to Sheikh Nasser a report on the bureau's achievements and a series of comprehensive labour and social affairs studies compiled by the bureau.

Charity bazaar

KUWAIT, May 16, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah has deputised Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed to patronise the first charity bazaar for crafts and traditional Arab food, inaugurated at Al Fatat Club yesterday.

After a tour of the bazaar, Sheikh Nasser commended president of the club Sheikh Sabeha Al Abdullah Al Ahmed and members of the club for organising the bazaar in order to achieve its noble goals.

5 suffer poisoning

ABOUT 15 persons were hospitalised for suspected poisoning through consuming contaminated food, but were discharged after one hour, the acting director general of Kuwait Municipality, Sheikh Sabah Jaber Al Ali said.

The official was commenting on press news which reported that about 45 persons had been poisoned at Jahra governorate.

The acting director said that he personally inspected the restaurant that served the food in the Shabiyat Area and had issued directives that the restaurant be closed and all workers be sent for medical tests.

He added that the restaurant will remain closed until completion of these medical tests and in the interim, all equipment at the restaurant will be destroyed.



Contracts signed

Two contracts were signed recently between the Ministry of Defence and Kupri Construction Project company and Gulf Company for Deep Foundations.

The first was signed on behalf of Kupri Company by Yusuf Al Roumi, while the second was signed on behalf of Gulf Company for Deep Foundations by Mohammad Al Barrak.

Both contracts were signed on behalf of the ministry by the undersecretary, Faisal Al Dawoud. The signing ceremony was attended by the chief engineer at military installations engineering department Fahed Al Jalil.

Development seminar

Unplanned privatisation dangerous, says Hamad

A LARGE number of Arab experts and economists have participated in a seminar entitled "Public Sector and Private Sector in the Arab World" which closed today.

Opening the ceremony, the chairman of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Abdul Latif Al Hamad said that the seminar's topic is very important as it concerns politicians and officials in the Third World and industrial countries.

The official went on to say that the public sector has played an appreciable role at all levels of investment and work related sectors in all Arab countries during the last three decades. However, he commented that this sector failed to achieve many goals due to the poor financial performance of public establishments and the increasing rates of inflation and debts of Arab countries.

Specifically, he said that international financial establishments that were encouraging the development of public establish-

ments by extending loans, are now seeking to reduce such support by transferring their involvement and support to the private sector.

Effects

In the context, he warned of the adverse effects of randomly and without proper planning, reducing the role of the public sector and transferring their assets to the private sector. "This solution cannot be accepted as pragmatic for addressing the problems of the private sector in the Third World in general and the Arab world in particular," he added.

He added: "There is a vital need to reconsider the role of the state in the economic life to serve development." The contribution of both the public and private sectors is essential to development and it is inadvisable to permit either one to dominate the other for economic and administrative reasons. He added that many Arab countries began to encourage the private sector to be more involved in economic activities and with this objec-

tives, transferred some public establishments to the care of the private sector.

Defects

Hamad called on Arab governments to take decisive steps to correct structural defects, put an end to debt problems and increase the efficiency of local production. He pointed out that ongoing efforts in forming economic groups and blocks, should be taken as a clear indication that there is no place for small countries to achieve development plans in the coming future.

Meanwhile, the seminar undertook discussions of work papers submitted which include research on experiments conducted on the public and private sectors in the Arab world. These will be the focus of discussions in 16 sessions.

A special research presented by Dr Mudi Al Nuoud from Kuwait University will be the focus of a special session to discuss Kuwait's experiments in relation to the private and public sectors.

Agriculture committee meets in Tabouk

TABOUK, May 16, (Kuna): The fifth session of the water and agriculture co-operation committee opened here yesterday in the presence of the GCC agriculture ministers.

Board chairman of the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij said, following the meeting, that Kuwait has proposed a periodical meeting for the officials on livestock health in GCC states during the preparatory meeting of the agriculture undersecretaries, which concluded its deliberation last night.

Sheikh Ibrahim said that due to the growing imports of livestock to the region, periodical meetings for the livestock health directors aim at achieving more co-operation and co-ordination in the field of exchanging information and views.

He added the periodical meeting will also help to report on agricultural diseases and to ban imports from countries stricken by diseases.

During their opening session, the GCC ministers discussed a memorandum presented by the GCC secretariat of the major programmes for the joint agriculture policy.

He added that he presented HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber during which he discussed latest developments in Lebanon.

The speaker, in statements during his stay here, expressed the Lebanese people's gratitude and appreciation for Kuwait's assistance to Lebanon, and the Amir's efforts to end the Lebanese crisis.



Paaet discussion

The admission and registration system at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) was the subject of discussion at an open symposium held at the Ogaila Bint Obaid secondary school for girls in Jebel Al Shuyoukh recently. The symposium was conducted by the director of the admissions office at the authority Ahmad Al Hussein.

Discussions at the symposium also dealt with the specialisations available at the authority, the special courses programme, scholarships and others.

Municipality to build three new cemeteries

THE General Controller of the Burial Department at Kuwait Municipality Yusuf Hamadah was quoted as saying that Kuwait Municipality will build three new cemeteries in the future in the areas of Um Al Hailman, Khairan and Sabbiya. He added that there were 52 cemeteries at the moment in the country with three for Christians.

He said the largest cemetery in Kuwait is Sulaibikhat with about 9521 graves there.

He added that the average burial cases for the time being could be estimated at 20 compared to deaths in 17 before ten years. He said that the oldest cemetery in Kuwait is Dahala which is currently known as the Municipality Garden which is situated at Fahd Al Salem Street in addition to another two cemeteries in Sharq area.

He added that the transferring of cemeteries into public facilities was not connected with a specific time, but Muslim clergymen have prohibited the transfer of any cemetery to public facility.

Hamadah added that the municipality had in recent years decided to afforest the cemeteries and have constructed feeder roads for easy access in order to enable families concerned to visit the grave of their dead.

Speaking of the burial procedure, the official said the cemeteries could not receive any corpse without death certificate issued by the authorities concerned.

On the other hand, the official disclosed that there were about nine cemeteries in Failaka Island.

He added that the municipality have provided a hall for funeral escorts, adding that there were about 495 workers and grave diggers working in the Kuwaiti cemeteries.

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Collective social affairs work lauded

KUWAIT, May 16, (Kuna): Secretary-General of the follow-up bureau for the Arab Gulf Labour and Social Affairs Ministers Council Kamel Al Saleh said today that the Kuwaiti leaders praised the collective Gulf work and achievements of the council.

Saleh's statement came following audiences with HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

He said HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince have expressed their support to the efforts exerted by the council secretariat which is represented by the follow-up bureau.

HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister have received Al Saleh on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Arab Gulf Labour and Social Affairs Ministers Council.

Saleh said that he presented HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister with a book titled "A Step Following Another on the Road to Joint Social and Labour Co-operation" and a series of social and labour studies and researches compiled by the bureau.

Saleh commended Kuwait under the wise leadership of HH the Amir for its continuous support to the joint Gulf labour and social work.

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Sheikh Zayed escorts Emperor Akhito as he bids farewell to the emperor at the state guest-house

Work for ME peace, Zayed asks Japan

TOKYO, May 16, (AP): The president of the United Arab Emirates met the Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu yesterday and asked Japan to play a bigger role in the peace efforts in the Middle East, a foreign ministry official said.

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan said "A big country like Japan is influential," according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kaifu told Zayed that "Japan will try its best to realise a permanent and comprehensive peace in the Middle East," the official said.

Japan supports the Palestinians' quest for self-determination, including a state of their own alongside Israel, and is demanding Israel's withdrawal from occupied territories. Japan also supports Israel's right to exist within secure borders.

Zayed pledged that the UAE will continue to give priority to supplying oil and gas to Japan, the official said. The United Arab Emirates is Japan's largest oil supplier.

He said Zayed and Kaifu agreed to strengthen friendly relations by promoting personnel exchanges between the two countries.

The official said Kaifu proposed that in the coming year, Japan would invite 75 people in various fields from the United Arab Emirates' capital city of Abu Dhabi.

Kaifu also promised to extend technical co-operation to the United Arab Emirates, the official said.

Today, Emperor Akhito paid a farewell call on Zayed at the government guest-house, marking the end of the formal four-day part of his visit.

Zayed is then scheduled to stay in Japan for two more days and visit Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan arena for Japan's traditional Sumo wrestling, where the grand summer Sumo tournament is under way.

He is to leave Saturday to visit Indonesia.

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Specialised security seminar in Kuwait

SPECIALISED Security Systems (Kuwait) in association with Thorn Security Limited (UK) (A Thorn EMI PLC Company) is organising a seminar in Kuwait on 28-29 May to introduce their range of security and fire related products and systems "with special emphasis on Analogue Addressable Fire Detection Systems".

Thorn Security, with a turnover in excess of £150 million and employing over 3,000 personnel world-wide, is a major supplier of security, fire and energy management systems. Thorn Security was formed in 1984 by merging all Thorn EMI fire and security related companies including such well-known names as:

- * Alfa Minerva
- * H and G
- * Nosen
- * Thomas Glover
- * Dunford

Another well-known US manufacturer of fire and security products, Kidde Automated Systems, Inc. was acquired by Thorn in 1986 and their full range of products and services are now available from Thorn. Thorn's range of equipments and services include:

- * Fire detection and extinguishing systems
- * Security access control and CCTV systems
- * Portable fire and ancillary fire fighting equipment
- * Escape warning and alarm monitoring systems
- * Energy management systems

Participation in the seminar is limited to a selected group of personnel from consultants, contractors, government departments and private sector and participants are requested to contact telephone nos. 4751201-4751220 and provide with names and contact telephone nos of personnel who wish to attend the seminar. More details will be provided upon request.

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Arab education conference opens

MANAMA, May 16, (Kuna): The fifth extraordinary general conference of the Arab Bureau for Education in the Arab Gulf States began here yesterday.

Ali Mohammed Fakhro, Bahraini education minister and Chairman of the Arab Gulf University board of trustees said at the inaugural session that the meeting will review issues concerning means of extending support to the Arab Gulf University, one of the joint establishments among Gulf states, and expressed hope that the meeting would bring positive results that serves the joint educational work.

The participants discussed during the meeting the two memorandum hsted on the conference's agenda which touched on the technical, administration,

academic and future plans of the Gulf University.

The first memorandum, presented by the university's board of trustees, tackle the current financial status and the future programmes of the university.

The second memorandum which was presented by president of the university Dr Ibrahim Al Hashemi dealt with a recommendation made by the board of trustees to add a new article to agreement of the establishment of the university.

The participants comprising education ministers of Arab Gulf states earlier today met with Bahraini Prime Minister Khalifa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa.

Khalifa underlined, during the meeting, the necessity of exerting full support to the Gulf University and expressed hope that the conference would yield positive results.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

YOU can do very little with faith, but you can do nothing without it — Samuel Butler, English satirist (1835-1902).

Soviet patriarch dies

Orthodox church at the crossroads

MOSCOW, (Reuters): The recent death of the head of the Russian Orthodox Church could open the way to new religious freedoms after decades of collaboration with the atheist Soviet state, religious reformers say.

Patriarch Pimen, who died on May 3, pursued a policy of quiet diplomacy with the state to ensure his church's survival after his appointment in 1971.

After Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev initiated a new atmosphere of religious freedom, Pimen came under criticism for such policies from believers who accused him of presiding over the emasculating of the church.

"For many years the church has been a closed institution because of its tight relationship with the state," said lay worker Alexander Ogorodnikov, who served eight years in prison for advocating religious education in the Soviet Union.

"The Holy Synod rules the church the way the KGB (secret police) controls the country," Ogorodnikov said in an interview.

Direction

Archbishop Theodosius, the head of Orthodox churches in North America, said Pimen's death combined with a new period of glasnost, or openness, in the Soviet Union could lead the church in a new direction.

"Pimen's death has come at an important juncture in the church. Pimen was a man of the old school and leadership is needed from someone who can meet the needs of this age," said the archbishop, who was in Moscow for Pimen's funeral.

Patriarch Pimen was the first head of the church in its 1,000-year history to be raised and educated under the Soviet system.

Pimen's successor is to be chosen in June. The election will be the first to be open to the lower ranks of the church hierarchy. In the past, the patriarch was selected by a small circle of senior church leaders.

A long history of religious persecution in the Soviet Union has motivated reformers to advocate dramatic change under Gorbachev.

The most vicious anti-religion campaign occurred under Soviet dictator Josef Stalin in the 1930s. He closed thousands of churches and sent many believers to labour camps.

Under Gorbachev, who sent condolences to Orthodox believers on Pimen's death, church life is undergoing a renaissance.

Churches have reopened, their onion domes have been refurbished and religious art is permitted to be sold on the streets after 70 years of repression.

Reforms

Church conservatives, however, have said in recent interviews that the reforms have gone far enough.

"The church doesn't want any more reforms and the Russian people don't want more reforms," said Father Mathew Stadnik, head of the Yelokhov Orthodox church in Moscow.

"The Orthodox church is conservative by its nature and that will never change," he said.

Religious reformers believe the Orthodox church should be independent with its own ruling structure. The Soviet constitution proclaims the separation of church and state but a state-run religious council controls nearly every aspect of the church's activities, including appointments to the church hierarchy.

It is this close relationship that reformers say has promoted collaboration between church and state.

The church also has been charged over the years with reaping great wealth from its parishioners. These profits, combined with the church's connection to the state, have allowed many priests to lead more comfortable lives than the average citizen.

Some drive expensive Soviet cars and live in homes like those normally inhabited by high-level party officials.

Several Orthodox churches in Moscow have been making a hefty profit by selling Bibles printed free by a Western publishing house for 25 roubles (\$40) each. Although the price is cheaper than the average 200 roubles (\$330) on the black market, the church is selling merchandise it has acquired free of charge.

Religious reformers also believe the church should be active in providing social services in Soviet communities just as churches do in the West.

Soviet law prohibits priests from counselling their parishioners. But in some neighbourhood churches priests have formed advice groups on drugs and alcohol abuse.

Despite the changes now sweeping Soviet society, some religious reformers are pessimistic that the Orthodox church will be reformed.

"The Synod is conservative and as long as that continues there will be no chance of serious change," Ogorodnikov said.



Pimen

Jerusalem: object of strife

Three religions lay claim

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (CSM): "Prince or people, everyone has his home in the..."

When the Psalmist wrote these words about Jerusalem 2,700 years ago, he caught something of the emotional and spiritual pull this city has had on generations of faithful — Jewish, Muslim, and Christian.

But if Occupied Jerusalem has been the focus of intense religious devotion, it has also been the object of intense political strife. As one Israeli writer, Amos Elon, says, politics and religion have fused to form a kind of "religious territorialism" or "holy nationalism."

In modern times, the struggle for Jerusalem has pitted Israelis against Palestinian Arabs, whose 28-month uprising against Israel has only heightened the emotional debate, based on religious and historic claims, over who should rule.

Jews believe that an undivided Jerusalem must be the eternal capital of Israel. Palestinians rejoin that "Arab Jerusalem," the half of the city annexed by Israel following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, must be the capital of an eventual Palestinian state. Many outsiders speak of placing Jerusalem under United Nations control or sidestepping the issue altogether until the other aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict have been resolved.

Debate

The debate was enlivened last month when United States President Bush questioned Soviet Jewish immigrants' right to settle in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem. Though partially retracted, the statement resurrected the controversial issue over who rules Jerusalem.

To learn why Jews and Arabs feel so strongly about Jerusalem, the Monitor spoke with Shlomo Riskin, a prominent Israeli rabbi, and Sari Nusseibeh, a leading Palestinian activist.

For every Jew, faith and politics, history, and the promise of salvation converge in Jerusalem, producing emotional commitment to the city unmatched by any other religion, says Rabbi Riskin.

"In terms of Jewish history and the sanctity of the place, Jerusalem belongs to the Jews," says Riskin. He left his post as chief rabbi of one of New York City's largest synagogues to settle in Israel seven years ago.

The wellspring of Jewish belief is the 35-acre threshing floor, known as the Temple Mount, that is the spiritual and symbolic centre of Jerusalem.

There, 4,000 years ago, the patriarch Abraham offered his son Isaac as a sacrifice to God. And there, because of Abraham's devotion, says Riskin, Jews built the great temples of Solomon and Herod that

remain "the symbol of the unity of the Jewish people."

Today, Jews believe that worshipping in Jerusalem is essential to serving God, many of whose 613 Biblical commandments can be fulfilled only here.

"Jerusalem has a greater quotient of divinity than any place on earth," says Riskin. "Jerusalem from our point of view means standing in the presence of God in a way you cannot anywhere else in the world."

"It's our Makkah," he adds, referring to Islam's holiest city, in Saudi Arabia.

Unity

Politically, notes Riskin, it was here that David forged unity out of 12 disparate tribes, providing the symbol which, ever since, has enabled Jews to think of themselves as one people. In every prayer, in every ceremony, says Riskin, it was the name of Jerusalem that sustained Jews through the hardships of centuries in exile, begun after Roman soldiers destroyed Herod's temple.

The right of Jews to control Jerusalem is strengthened by continuity, Riskin adds. At least a remnant of Jews have lived continuously in Jerusalem since the time of Abraham, while Muslim conquerors, the precursors of today's Palestinian Arabs, arrived only in the seventh century. Nor has any Arab ruler made Jerusalem his capital.

When Jordan controlled Jerusalem's Old City between 1948 and 1967, it excluded all Jews from their holy places and allowed acts of desecration at significant Jewish sites.

Riskin says Jordan's policy is the strongest argument for permanent Israeli control of the city.

"The Arabs turned Jewish holy places into stalls," says Riskin. "But after 1967 we gave the keys to the mosques to the Arabs. No one called for internationalizing Jerusalem when it was under Arab rule; now suddenly the world says to internationalize the city. It's so unfair."

"The Arab world has proved to us that wherever we don't have sovereignty we can't function," adds Riskin. "We have proven to Arabs that they don't need sovereignty to function politically or religiously. Without sovereignty, we have nothing."

There is no such thing as an exclusive Jewish right to Jerusalem, whether historically or religiously, explains Sari Nusseibeh, a professor of philosophy at Bir Zeit University on the West Bank.

Professor Nusseibeh says the ancestral roots of today's Palestinian Arabs precede the Jewish presence in Jerusalem and have never been interrupted.

Moreover, Jerusalem has been a focus of religious

devotion for thousands of years, going back to the ancient Canaanites.

"When Abraham came, Jerusalem was already a centre for religious devotion," says Nusseibeh. "When you study the claim to Jerusalem, there's no reason why the Palestinians, who have always been here one way or the other, should have less share of the country and the capital than Jews."

Belongs

"Jerusalem's centrality from a cultural point of view is something that belongs to all people independent of Jewish and Muslim claims," he adds. Nusseibeh says Palestinians also have a claim to Jerusalem as Muslims. For 13 centuries, Jerusalem has been Islam's holiest site after Makkah (the Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) birthplace and site of the annual Muslim hajj, or pilgrimage) and Medina (Muhammad's burial site).

So sacred is Jerusalem, Muslims believe, that a good deed committed here has 1,000 times the normal weight, while a sin committed here has 1,000 times the normal gravity.

Like Jews, Muslims venerate the Temple Mount because of Abraham, though in Islamic tradition the object of sacrifice was not Isaac but Ishmael, the patriarch of the Arabs.

In addition, the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount honours the spot from which the Prophet ascended to heaven to talk to God. His only recorded miracle, the event is as central to Islam as the Exodus is to Judaism or the resurrection of Jesus to Christianity.

Whether real or visionary, says Nusseibeh, the visit heightened the significance of Jerusalem as the place from which man was allowed to ascend to God.

"Why did he see God from Jerusalem and not Makkah?" Nusseibeh asks rhetorically. "It gives Jerusalem a special status as the gateway to divine knowledge."

Ultimately, says Nusseibeh, the Arab claim to sovereignty over Jerusalem is political, not religious. Until now, Arabs have never placed their capital in Jerusalem precisely because it is a holy city. But with Israel threatening Arab rights to the city, the issue has been forced. "Since I have a challenger to my rights and since it threatens my very existence, there is a rise in Palestinian Arab consciousness with Jerusalem as its focus."

"In the end, our claim to Jerusalem is not based on Islam but on national grounds," says Nusseibeh. "We see Jerusalem as the capital of the country of which we are the indigenous inhabitants."

Refugee influx hampers EEC pact

THE HAGUE, (Reuters): An accord meant as a model for plans to scrap European Economic Community (EEC) border controls by 1993 has been delayed and diluted over fears that refugees would flood through open borders after German unification.

France, West Germany and the Benelux countries are due to hold high-level talks in The Hague today to put finishing touches on the so-called Schengen Accord.

The accord was meant to ease cross-border travel while increasing police co-operation among the five nations over illegal immigration, drugs and weapons trafficking, and terrorism.

But it has served more as an early warning of the minefields that lie ahead than as a dry run for a border-free European Economic Community.

Concern

Concern of four Schengen countries — France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands — over German unification is the main stumbling block, Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers recently told reporters.

"The issue of the accord being binding on East Germany once the two Germanys are united is still a big question that remains for discussions," Lubbers said.

Worried that refugees from developing nations and East Europe could flow into their territory through East Germany, the four want assurances from Bonn that Schengen provisions to harmonise visa policy would be binding on a united Germany. Lubbers, whose country currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the talks, said he believed the accord would be signed before July 1.

But agreement has been reached only by leaving a number of major issues unsettled, and the pact will be a watered-down version of earlier drafts, officials say.

The five had initially hoped to produce a common list of developing countries from which they would recognise political refugees, but the idea was dropped due to lack of consensus and will now be deferred to broader EEC talks.

The Netherlands has been forced to drop its demand that Luxembourg agree to ease strict banking laws to help its neighbours pursue tax evaders. This issue will also be deferred.

The five have also been unable to agree on how far police can pursue fugitives across borders. This will have to be worked out in later bilateral agreements.

Signing of the accord was held up last December over problems arising from the prospect of German unity, and its implementation has been delayed while West Germany sought the same access for East Germans to Schengen countries as West Germans would enjoy.

That problem was resolved last month when it



was agreed to scrap visa requirements for East Germans.

The accord calls for implementation of a Schengen

information system to provide police in the five countries with computerised information on fugitives and criminals.

Letters to the editor

Child upbringing

SIR: The seminar on Careers and Vocational Guidance conducted by the Goan Welfare Society, is constructive and welcome to our youth. Some parents do not motivate their children, so their values are warped, more emphasis being given to the frivolous, where entertainment takes precedence over the realities of life. Of course, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" is true, but what about all play and no work...? Today's world is competitive and confusing, where survival is the name of the game, so wake up parents and get more involved with your children, motivate them early, implant the right ideals and principles.

A pat on the back to Joe Correa and his noble intellects, who found time and used their talents to inspire our children. I hope more of us will be of the same turn of mind in other fields, that fuel the intellect and nurture the values of the same.

Mrs Mabel Alphonso, Safat.

Democratic rights

SIR: I refer to Sultan Ahmed Ali's letter entitled "Religious tolerance" dated May 9, 1990.

In my previous contribution, to which Ali refers, I pointed out that in France Muslims enjoy full democratic rights — so much so that it is perfectly legal, for instance, for a Muslim to stand outside a church and distribute Islamic propaganda tracts. Now, the incidents of violence against Muslims which Ali refers to are criminal acts punishable by law. The law makes no distinction between Christian and Muslims, or any other religious groups for that matter. Furthermore, such acts of violence against Muslims are no more than that — acts of vandalism — similar to the ones perpetrated by fundamentalist Muslims in Upper Egypt against an already embattled indigenous Christian community.

As for the specific reference to the fact that the 'azani' is not allowed on loudspeakers, this does not strike me as unfair when one considers that such a practice is totally alien to the grand majority of the populations,

and therefore, cannot be imposed on non-Muslims, the same as loud church bells cannot be imposed on a population with a large Muslim majority. The prayer call itself is a right in France, and that is what matters in essence.

Lastly, when it comes to tolerance, I do feel that Ali's position seems hypocritical in that the 'rights' of Christians in the Middle East in general are largely regarded as a 'favour' rather than actual democratic rights. For all the relevant facts and figures concerning this, Ali is welcome to refer to a recent article in Time (23.4.90) entitled "Fear in the First Churches".

Leslie Atkinson, Hawaii.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Nigeria

Military tries once more to find formula

LAGOS, Nigeria, (AP): The military government has created two political parties in an effort to produce the first viable civilian government in Africa's most populous country, but critics see little chance of success.

They say Gen. Ibrahim Babangida's plans are doomed by tribalism, religious differences, power-hungry politicians and his own undemocratic methods.

People registering as members of the two parties appear to make their choices on the basis of tribal and religious loyalties. The centre-right National Republican Convention attracts the Muslim northerners who have dominated politics in this West African nation of 100 million people.

Most people in the south, where Nigeria's oil riches lie, are Christians and followers of traditional, animist African religions. They tend to join the left-of-centre Social Democratic Party.

Banned

In October, Babangida's government banned 13 independent groups that hoped to contest elections promised for 1992, created the two parties and wrote their charters and platforms.

"It has dampened my enthusiasm," said Wole Soyinka, the Nigerian who won the 1960 Nobel prize for literature. He said he would not join a party created by the government.

Experienced politicians and civil servants were banned from both parties. The government said it wanted to cleanse politics of corruption and nepotism — the problems the army cited in overthrowing two prior civilian administrations.

Babangida seized power on Aug. 27, 1985, becoming the sixth military man to govern Nigeria since independence from Britain in 1960.

He has survived three attempted coups, the last on April 22 by plotters trying to break the political hold of northerners.

The latest plot "highlighted the fact that the political transition programme is not workable," a university professor said, on condition of anonymity.

"The two-party system will only worsen the north-south division. Muslims or Christians will be set on candidates of their own religion in 1992 — if the regime survives until then," the professor added.

In a speech to the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Club, lawyer Leon Mbalika said, "We hardly change government peacefully by violent means."

Mission

The club's mission is to spread the late black American leader's ideal of non-violent change. Its literature warns of "monsters who planted violence into the country's body politic... and even kill their political opponents on gaining power."

Much criticism has greeted the ban on former politicians, despite past election fraud.

"No one goes into the African jungle without using a cutting footpath as a guide," said Ibi Safaku, president of the Nigeria Junior Chamber of Commerce. "The person may decide to blaze a new trail... but he has to start somewhere; otherwise he will end up in the jaws of the lion."

Dolly Ajifo, a businessman, said some banned politicians were giving younger ones cars and money in hopes of taking over parties not yet formed.

Ajifo said he had dropped out of this "new breed" of politics.

"I don't think the transition programme will solve the problem," he told an interviewer. "In addition to the possibility of the plotters hijacking the system through their intrigues, even the youth still view politics as the route to make money."

Apathetic

The National Electoral Commission denies the people are apathetic, but one reason to say how many have registered with the two parties.

Chief Ben Obi, a veteran politician, said: "Already, people are being persuaded to register, and other largesse if they register for a particular party."

Lawyer Niyi Ademola, an active participant in the "new breed" politics, said with more hope: "New breed politicians can cope if they get the chance to resolve issues, rather than the military interpreting every squabble as a crisis and taking over."

Babangida's Chief of Staff, Gen. Sani Abacha, has said the army is "tired of playing ping-pong with the people."

Party registration was conducted for six weeks beginning Mar. 26, and to resume after June conventions, at which registered members will choose their leaders.

Misunderstandings and shortages of forms have hindered registration.

A man who could not register because there were no forms at the booth in St. Paul's Primary School said: "I don't care which party I join. I just want to be able to vote."

He and 13 other people interviewed believed they were registering to vote, rather than joining party.

QUOTE ME

"After all the noise and just Saturday, a pecking up job is needed. On Saturday 300 million people (the expected global television audience) will be able to see that English first can behave themselves." — United manager Ferguson on last week's misbehaviour during football match on the FA Cup final Manchester United and Crystal Palace.

"I am ashamed for the government, that is a poor government because until now it hasn't seriously solved the shipyard's problems. You have to fight and in this fight you can count on me." — Solidarity leader Walicki in a letter to striking dockworkers.

"The wound is too deep to be healed. Despite the occasional hulls, both sides are preparing for a decisive battle... the prospects of a political settlement for the power struggle are nil. If Aoun wins the election he will be better placed to maintain some position on the political ground. If he loses or fails to secure a major victory then it would be difficult for him to play a role in Lebanese politics." — A Lebanese government official on the decisive battle in Beirut between Christians.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1521 — Edward Stafford, claimant to English throne, is executed for treason.

1536 — Archbishop Cranmer declares marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn is invalid.

1632 — Gustavus II enters Munich and Elector John George of Saxony seizes Prague without firing a shot.

1756 — Britain declares war on France.

1782 — Treaty of Salbai ends war between British and Marathas of India.

1803 — British Orders-in-Council places first embargo on all French and Dutch ships in British ports.

1809 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte issues imperial decree annexing Papal states.

1885 — Germany annexes northern New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago.

1940 — Nazi Germany occupies Brussels, Belgium, in World War II.

1946 — Mitri Antonescu, wartime premier of Romania, is sentenced to death.

1957 — Egypt bars Israeli merchant ships from Suez Canal.

1962 — US officials say American troops that landed in Thailand will play defensive role and not invade communist-threatened Laos.

1976 — Libya takes action to try to mediate between Christians and Muslims battling in Lebanon.

1988 — Fighting rages in Lebanon despite peace efforts by Syria and Iran.

1989 — Taiwan's premier Yu Kuo-Hwa says he has submitted his resignation to preserve party unity and to allow younger person to succeed him.

American consumer prices up

WASHINGTON, May 16. (UPI): Prices at the consumer level rose 0.2 per cent in April, after a 1.1 per cent gain in March, the Labour Department reported today, confirming hopes that inflation has cooled and interest rates should keep slipping.

For the first four months of the year, consumer prices rose at an annualised rate of 6.8 per cent. For the 12 months period ended in April, inflation at the consumer level increased 4.7 per cent.

Private economists had expected the 0.2 per cent rise, which comes on the heels of a series of economic reports indicating a slowdown in the economy, which has sent interest rates downward.

The government said April's price increase was broad-based. But the slowdown in rising prices was noted mostly in food, energy and apparel, the products largely responsible for steep price hikes earlier in the year.

A sharp drop in fresh vegetable prices pushed food costs down 0.2 per cent in April. Lower prices for household fuels offset gains in motor fuel prices to push energy costs down.

Apparel and upkeep costs rose slightly last month after posting sharp gains in February and March when clothing makers introduced spring and summer lines early to capitalise on warmer-than-usual weather.

The government's index of food and beverage prices posted its first decrease since July 1987, down 0.2 per cent in April. Prices in groceries shelves fell 0.7 per cent in the month, as prices of fruits, vegetables and dairy products eased.

Fresh vegetable prices decreased 15.5 per cent last month and have dropped 19.8 per cent in the past two months, the government said. Fruit prices rose 0.4 per cent while dairy products were down 1.3 per cent.

Prices were up for cereal, bakery products, meats, poultry, fish and eggs. Dining out costs a bit more in April, with restaurant meals increasing 0.5 per cent and alcoholic beverages gaining 0.3 per cent.

Housing costs gained slightly by 0.1 per cent during the month, after rising 0.5 per cent in March.

New small car to be launched

PARIS, May 16. (Reuters): Renault will launch a new small car, the Clio, in Europe later this year as a replacement for its best-selling Renault Five, a spokesman for the state-owned car maker said yesterday.

The company hopes to capture four per cent of the European market with Clio and 12 per cent of the French market, competing with the 3.6 per cent and 10.4 per cent the R-5 held last year.

The new car will be priced in line with its main French competitor, the Peugeot 205, the spokesman said.

Clio will go on sale in France next month and will reach Swiss, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish salerooms from September, but will not be launched in Britain and West Germany until next January, he said.

Renault will continue to produce some versions of the Renault Five, but Clio will be its main small car model.

Bank profits rise

ABU DHABI, May 16. (Reuters): The Abu Dhabi-based Bank of Credit and Commerce (Emirates) net profits rose 11.8 per cent in 1989 to 64.4 million dirhams (\$17.5 million) from 57.6 million (\$15.6 million) a year ago, a bank statement said.

The bank, a consolidated affiliate of Bank of Credit and Commerce International Holdings (Kyznyvry) S.A. (BCCI) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), made 30 million dirhams (\$8.1 million) loan loss provision set aside for the same purpose in 1988.

The bank total assets, also grew to 6.2 billion dirhams (\$1.69 billion) in 1989 from 5.3 billion (\$1.4 billion) in 1988.

The Abu Dhabi government took a controlling 77 per cent stake in BCCI earlier this year. BCCI's management centre is being moved to Abu Dhabi from London, managing director Zafar Iqbal told the BCC (Emirates) annual meeting held in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday night.

Exchange Rates

Indian rupee	16,890
Sri Lanka rupee	7,360
Pakistan rupee	13,420
Bangladesh taka	8,450
US dollar	21,30
Pound sterling	48,600
UAE dirham	0.7927
Deutsche mark	1.7635
Japanese yen	0.01925

CIA warns of economic pain in E. Europe

WASHINGTON, May 16. (Reuters): Eastern Europe's economies were deteriorating and faced a real threat of recession before getting a chance to grow stronger, the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said today.

Countries in the region that tried hardest to reform after decades of communist central planning would be the most vulnerable, it said in a report released to a US congressional subcommittee.

The agency predicted that years would pass before East Europeans could enjoy a better standard of living.

"The region's economic situation is deteriorating and there is a prospect for deep recession," it said.

Members of the joint (House of Representatives and Senate) economic committee's subcommittee on Technology and National Security, to whom the CIA report was sent, said that while police reform in Eastern Europe was welcome, the economic battle was all uphill.

"There is simply no time to be euphoric," said

subcommittee chairman Senator Jeff Bingaman, a democrat from New Mexico.

"Many of the countries of the region are in for a period of recession and economic crises. Things will likely get worse before they improve," he added, calling the CIA testimony "sobering".

The CIA report, entitled "Eastern Europe: Long road ahead to economic well-being", pinpointed common problems across the region and mapped economic progress in individual countries.

It named key underlying problems as slow or stagnant growth, poor infrastructure, obsolete industry, shoddy goods, neglected agriculture and massive environmental problems.

Mounting inflation, growing budget deficits and hard currency debt would make it difficult to sustain future growth, it said.

"Such problems will be difficult to overcome... (and will) act as a brake on future growth," it said. "Performance may be poorest in those countries pushing hardest for reform — Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia."

Prices would rocket and unemployment would

probably soar, hitting about nine per cent of Poles by year-end, and 15 to 20 per cent of East Germans and Yugoslavs over the next year.

"The loss of jobs is certain to be traumatic both for the unemployed and the new governments," it said, adding that the fledgling governments might also face a severe cash shortage.

"The region's financial position is fragile... a collapse of lender confidence could lead to a severe liquidity crisis," the CIA said.

It blamed decades of communism for the host of economic problems and said an upturn was still years away.

But it did see some cause for optimism. "Progress has been achieved in decentralising management, freeing prices, expanding the private sector, encouraging competition, liberalising private and foreign investment rights, and enhancing individual incentives," it said.

The CIA also singled out Poland for praise, saying recent events showed the people's willingness to endure hardships imposed from above in the hope of a better future.

GATT observer status granted

Moscow seeks integration into world economy

LONDON, May 16. (Reuters): Step by step, President Mikhail Gorbachev is staking the Soviet Union's claim to a greater role on the world economic stage.

In Geneva today, with a minimum of ceremony, Moscow was granted observer status at the international trade body GATT. And, in two weeks' time in Paris, the Soviet Union is due to sit down with 39 other nations to sign the statutes of a new bank to channel assistance to Eastern Europe.

But the unresolved debate over economic reforms in Moscow and Western worries at events in Baltic states means that full integration into the global economy and membership of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is probably years away.

"The Soviets are trying to integrate themselves into the international economy," said Philip Hanson, professor of Soviet economics at Birmingham

University in England.

"But it is going to be a very long haul."

Gorbachev surprised Western leaders almost a year ago at their Paris summit with a proposal for closed economic policy co-ordination.

It was a far cry from 1947 when the Soviet delegate to the United Nations denounced the IMF and the World Bank — set up towards the end of World War Two as twin pillars of the world's financial system — as mere "branches of Wall Street."

Over the past 12 months, Western monetary officials have detected a major shift in attitude as Moscow steps up contact with Western-dominated agencies that it shunned in the cold war.

That change was summed up by Ernest Ombrinsky, head of the Soviet delegation to East-West economic talks in Bonn two months ago, when he said: "We must work further to free

ourselves from the inertia of bloc mentality... and exclusive group psychology."

The reasons for the shift are complex and diverse.

A tortuous on-off, on-off debate over reform in Moscow has left the economy in limbo. Some economists believe Gorbachev is trying to tie the Soviet Union into the Western system of free markets to ensure the demise of central planning.

The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe has seriously disrupted the Soviet Union's trade as the old Comecon system based on the "transferable rouble" and barter with its former satellites disintegrates.

Moscow also realises it needs Western advice on coping with the transition from Stalinist economics to the free market. Economists say recent delays on payments to Western firms

have been caused by organisational problems and managerial inexperience as Soviet companies are given new autonomy.

But they say Soviet reform has to go further before Moscow can be welcomed with open arms as a full fledged partner in all Western financial organisations.

The rouble has to be made freely convertible into Western currencies and the system of subsidies that distorts almost all aspects of industrial and agricultural life must be dismantled.

Observer status in GATT, the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, is still a long way from full membership and Moscow will take no part in the group's Uruguay round of negotiations designed to break down barriers to world trade.

The new status is, however, a strong signal of growing acceptance and encouragement from major GATT

players such as the United States and Japan and far from devoid of practical value.

"What should be highlighted in the case of the Soviet Union is the fact that its authorities have... underlined their wish to learn from this market-economy-based system and to keep members of the GATT informed on its process of economic reform," the organisation's director-general Arthur Dunkel said in Geneva.

Soviet authorities have also taken up contact with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, a forum of 24 leading industrial countries now closely involved in the West's assistance for Eastern Europe.

Moscow's role in the Geneva-based International Labour Organisation (ILO), until recently dormant, has sprung back to life and it has backed studies on the impact of East-West

arms cuts on industry and employment in the Soviet Union.

And at the end of this month, Moscow is due to become a six per cent shareholder in the French-inspired European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), a new multilateral agency expected to play a major role in East European economic reform.

Of more practical significance to Moscow's gradual integration into the world economy are two landmark trade deals.

The first, signed last December with the European Economic Community, will progressively dismantle quotas on Soviet industrial goods. The second, a deal with the United States expected to be signed by Gorbachev and President George Bush at their summit in two weeks' time, will cut substantially tariffs on Soviet goods.

Bid to trim soaring budget deficit

Budget talks open

WASHINGTON, May 16. (Reuters): President George Bush and congressional leaders, wary of raising taxes in a congressional election year, opened emergency budget talks on Tuesday in a bid to trim a soaring federal budget deficit without upsetting voters.

The inaugural meeting was expected to be a feeling out session in which congressional Democrats prodded Bush to lay out his priorities, while the president made the case for procedural reforms of the budget process.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Bush would open the 90-minute session by discussing the importance of reducing the deficit without impeding economic growth — a phrase the White House sometimes uses to signal its opposition to higher taxes — and stressing the need to avoid the automatic spending cuts that would be triggered unless a budget agreement is reached by October 1.

"President Bush will have opening remarks in which he will discuss again the need to get the deficit down, the need to deal with government spending... and then basically it will be open to discussion by all the participants, and we'll just have to see what each of them says," Fitzwater said before the meeting.

Bush, who says the budget problem would be diminished if Congress would give him the power to

reject individual spending in larger appropriation bills, declined to answer reporters' questions at the start of the session.

Higher interest rates, rising costs for shoring up the savings and loan industry and weakness in the economy has pushed the projected deficit for the 1991 fiscal year beginning October 1 far higher than expected.

The Gramm-Rudman budget law says the deficit must be trimmed to \$64 billion or spending on all government programmes will be automatically cut by an equal percentage.

In February, the White House estimated it would take \$36 billion in spending cuts or revenue increases to meet the Gramm-Rudman goal, but budget Director Richard Darman now estimates between \$50 billion and 100 billion in savings are needed.

Most independent budget experts say some sort of tax increase will be necessary to make serious inroads against the deficit, which may exceed \$160 billion in the coming fiscal year.

The tax issue is particularly acute because all 435 seats in the House of Representatives and one-third of the 100 Senate seats are at stake in the November election and there is little political benefit in voting for higher levies of any sort.

Move to finance unification

Bonn to set up fund

BONN, May 16. (Reuters): West Germany's federal and state governments are to set up a fund of 115 billion marks (\$70 billion) to finance unification with East Germany, Finance Minister Theo Waigel said on Tuesday.

Twenty billion marks will come from government savings and the rest will be borrowed on capital markets between now and 1994, he told reporters after talks with the finance ministers of West Germany's 10 federal states.

"A German unity fund will be set up in which the federal government and the states will take part with 50 per cent each," Waigel said.

"It will finance the investment needed for German unification in the following years, especially 1990 and 1991."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the state prime ministers are expected to approve the fund when they meet today.

Waigel said money lent to the fund would receive nine per cent interest a year, a high rate in a country where inflation is running at around a third of that.

Under a draft treaty on monetary and economic union due to be approved later this week by Bonn and East Berlin, West Germany's free-market economic system and its strong currency will be introduced in the East on July 1.

Meanwhile, West German central bank president Karl Otto Poehl said today the moment is approaching when European Economic Community governments must decide if they are serious about creating a central bank and a single currency.

"There will be this hour of truth — whether European governments are really prepared to... give away the right to print money," the Bundesbank president told a dinner at the European Parliament.

"I still have my doubts whether we can expect that, but it remains to be seen."

Poehl, also chairman of the EEC committee of central bank governors, said government faced this decision

because the proposal for a phased creation of a common central bank system would not work.

The Delors report of EEC monetary experts last year mapped out a three-stage plan culminating in a European central bank system and a common currency.

But Poehl said a future European central bank must have control of both the quantity and price of money, a "monopoly" on the issue of money.

"What I would not accept is a wishy-washy system where you have the European central bank issuing ECUs and the national banks issuing marks or francs," Poehl said.

"That would be the quickest way to inflation."

The man who heads the central bank known for fighting inflation at all costs, told members of the parliament he wanted to emphasise the stark choice member states faced because there had been vagueness in the debate over EEC monetary union.

He laid out three basic principles which would lead to monetary union — free capital markets, fixed exchange rates, and common decision making.

Free movement of money is just around the corner, he said. Most EEC member states have lifted limits before the July 1 deadline for a free capital market in the community.

The EEC has also made progress on stable exchange rates, although it was premature to fix rates among the 12 currencies, he said.

Until the time is ripe, he said the existing EEC central banks and institutions should be striving to build common policies.

The European Monetary System (EMS), anchored by the West German mark, had been "remarkably" successful in making member states keep their currencies within narrow limits, Poehl said, conceding that a new central bank should be accountable to politicians.

Jobless rate could soar tenfold in year

WEST BERLIN, May 16. (Reuters): The number of East Germans out of work could jump tenfold to more than a million in the year following German economic union in July, a West German research institute said today.

The DIW forecast, the latest in a series of conflicting estimates of how hard East Germany would be hit by the switch from a centrally planned to a market economy, said workers would be laid off at a pace of up to 200,000 a month.

Unemployment in East Germany, unknown or disguised until communist rule collapsed last autumn, has already soared to more than 100,000 in April, more than triple the total in March, the association for the unemployed said on Tuesday.

East Germany's Labour and Social Affairs Ministry estimates it could reach 500,000 by mid-year when the sudden switch to a free market starts.

East Berlin officials fear more than two million could be out of work before an expected growth boom begins to take hold.

The DIW, which said its "best-case" scenario saw

layoffs hitting the 535,000 level, estimated the cost of unemployment benefits at up to 6.7 billion marks (\$4.1 billion).

This would mean Bonn would have to chip in an extra 1.5 billion marks (\$1 billion) in addition to unemployment insurance that East Germans who keep their jobs should pay.

However, the institute said individuals' jobless periods could be reduced through extensive retraining programmes as East German workers are usually highly qualified.

East German Labour Minister Regine Hildebrandt said in interviews with West German magazines this week she expected unemployment to soar to between 300,000 and two million.

"There will be hardly any business which can enter a new period of market economy without shedding labour," she told Der Spiegel.

Predicting instability as industries fold, she said: "West Germany cannot live with such a collapsing and decaying part of Germany, with such a tumour, in its body. So it has to invest and promote business."

Recovery bank plan opposed

AMSTERDAM, May 16. (Reuters): The Dutch Finance Ministry said today seven small European Economic Community nations had combined to oppose plans to establish a bank that will handle billions of dollars to assist economic recovery in Eastern Europe.

Ministry spokesman Jaap Weeda said the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal, Greece and Denmark were annoyed by the way in which the larger members of the EEC — France, West Germany, Britain and Italy — had reached agreement over details of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Most details of the new bank have been hammered out among its 42 shareholders — countries and banking institutions from Europe, Asia and North America — over the past few months.

Weeda said the smaller EEC countries regarded the EBRD as an EEC matter and felt "left out" by the four bigger countries which he recalled had taken decisions on it during a meeting of the group of seven industrial nations in Washington last week.

Ireland, current holder of the revolving EEC presidency, took no position in the row brewing within the 12-nation community, he added.

World must pull together: Indonesia

Call to save rainforests

JAKARTA, May 16. (Reuters): Indonesian President Suharto today called on the people of the world to pull together to save tropical rainforests, the lungs of the earth.

"We don't have to find a scapegoat for the pollution and degradation of the environment in this single planet earth of ours. We are all in the same boat. If we sink, not a single nation shall survive," he said during the opening of the International Tropical Timber Organisation meeting.

Although opened in Jakarta, the meeting will run until May 23 in Bali, a holiday island in that land that has more tropical rainforests than any country bar Brazil and which controls 80 per cent of the world trade in plywood.

Forestry Minister Hasyul Marahap said it was unfair that developing countries cutting timber were blamed for the havoc facing the earth's atmosphere. Factories pouring our fumes in developed countries were just as much at fault.

"It is not right and rational to blame developing countries who are trying to improve their socio-economic conditions by utilising their forests resources," he said.

The Yokohama-based Itto groups 19 timber-producing countries, which represent 95 per cent of the world's total tropical timber output, and 25 consumer countries. It is a United Nations affiliate dealing with environmental as well as trade matters.

But ecologists say the environmental aspects are little better than a charade.

"The Itto meeting remains focussed on promoting the tropical timber trade," said Chee Yoke Ling of the Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network, a non-government body attending the meeting.

"The devastation to the environment caused by deforestation will certainly cost more than any profit from timber exploitation," she said.

Suharto acknowledged that restrictions on logging and replanting rules aimed at allowing Indonesians to make a living out of the forest without destroying them were flouted, often by poor and ignorant people practicing slash and burn agriculture.

Accord for high-tech TV

\$3.6 b co-operation pact signed

AMSTERDAM, May 16. (Reuters): Dutch and French electronics giants Philips and Thomson said today they have signed a \$3.6 billion co-operation agreement to develop high definition television (HDTV).

Television manufacturers in Europe, the United States and Japan see HDTV as their next great opportunity to introduce a new and profitable product globally as the market for conventional television sets approaches saturation.

Industry analysts say HDTV, which offers much higher picture quality, could represent a \$25 billion market within 10 years.

A Philips spokesman said the deal with state-owned Thomson, the world's largest producer of television sets,

was announced in Paris by French Industry Minister Roger Fauroux.

The five year deal provides an international meeting in Dusseldorf this month where delegates will try to set a uniform world standard for HDTV.

Neither NV Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken nor Thomson SA released statements on the deal but the Philips spokesman confirmed a report in the London-based Financial Times newspaper that the pact would complement the European Community's Eureka project to develop the new television system.

Philips shares opened 0.30 guilders higher at 33.80 before easing to 33.60 in early trading after the HDTV news.



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Terror will not deter us: Bush

Manila raises debt issue

CLARK AIR BASE, May 16, (Agencies): US President George Bush, in a message read today at a memorial service for two airmen slain by communist rebels, said their deaths would not deter the United States from "the cause of freedom."

In Manila, police arrested 15 people in the third straight day of protests against US military bases in the Philippines. They were among 300 people, including Roman Catholic nuns and protesters from 14 nations, who tried to march to the US embassy, but were blocked by police.

US Ambassador Nicholas Platt read Bush's message to about 600 people attending a memorial service for airmen John H. Raven, 19, and James C. Green, 20.

They were slain Sunday near this US-run base, 50 miles (80 km) north of Manila. Communist rebels claimed responsibility and said they would keep killing Americans until all US troops had left the country.

Those attending the service included the leader of US and Philippine panels that opened talks in Manila on Monday on the future of Clark Air Base and five other US military installations in the archipelago.

The killings were believed to have been planned to coincide with the opening of the talks.

"Terrorism will not deflect our nation from its purpose, to preserve and protect democracy and freedom," Bush said in his message. "The tragic murders of these brave men will not deter us from pursuing the cause of freedom, the effort for which they and many brave men before them gave their lives."

Weakness
Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, chief Philippine delegate at the bases talks, told reporters afterward that he attended the service to "stress the position of our government that these acts of killing unarmed American soldiers is an act of weakness and diminishes the dignity and honour of the people of the Philippines."

Earlier today, Philippine officials said the United States owed more than \$200 million in back debts and Manila expected Washington to keep its word on compensation for its military bases.

A Philippine official said the issue may jeopardise talks on extending the lease for the six installations after the current agreement expires in September 1991.

Filipino delegates complained that the United States had fallen short by \$222.6 million in aid promised to Manila to maintain the bases, said Rafael Alunan, spokesman for the Philippine panel.

"The way I see it, that will endanger the future of the talks with the United States," Alunan said. "I would like to think that both sides are prepared to work out their differences as friends and allies are expected to do."

US panel spokesman Stanley Schragger quoted chief US delegate Richard Armitage as saying he did not "stand next to a cash register when conducting foreign relations." The two sides agreed to set up a committee to study the issue.

In 1988, the administration of then president Ronald Reagan promised \$962 million in aid over a two-year period to maintain the bases through 1991. This year, Congress cut \$96 million from the Bush administration's aid package for the Philippines.

Target
Schragger said the United States pledged only "best efforts" to meet the funding target and had exceeded the promised aid to the Philippines since 1986, when President Corason Aquino took office.

Schragger also said the US panel raised the issue of security for its 40,000 troops, Defence Department civilians and military dependents following Sunday's killings near Clark.

After the memorial service, Manglapus claimed the Americans had not provided enough money to implement a joint security plan for the bases.

In a related development, military dissidents also called for the bases to be closed by 1991. The statement was telephoned to news organisations by the Revolutionary Alliance of the Masses - Soldiers of the Filipino People, which led the Dec 1-9 failed attempt to overthrow Aquino.

Security
Security for all US airlines and US-bound planes has been tightened following insurgent threats against Americans in this country, an airport official said today. Eduardo Carrascosa, manager of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, said tighter security has been in effect since Monday when the United States and the Philippines began talks. The first phase of the talks is expected to last for a week, officials said. Extra security will continue if the talks go into a second formal stage, officials said.



Philippine military escorts Edzel Sajor, during a press conference at the military headquarters in Manila. (Reuter wirephoto)

'3,000 homeless'

Students march in Dhaka

DHAKA, May 16, (Reuters): At least 3,000 people were left homeless when the rain-swollen Jamuna river in northern Bangladesh washed away parts of five villages in the past two days, officials said today.

They said big chunks of land had been swept away by waves in the swollen river triggered by strong winds.

"At least 3,000 villagers in Pabna district have been rendered homeless while thousands of others fled to safer places," a local official told reporters.

Major rivers, including the

Jamuna, Brahmaputra and Meghna, swallow the homes of an average of 50,000 Bangladeshis every year, according to official figures.

Meanwhile, a thousand Bangladeshi students marched to an army recruitment centre today demanding jobs.

"Take us in the army if there are no vacancies anywhere else," the students chanted. They were stopped by police outside the centre in Dhaka, witnesses said.

The marchers denounced a five-year-old ban on recruitment in government services, which officials say are overstuffed.

Lanka has 40,000 drug addicts

COLOMBO, May 16, (Kuna): There are some 40,000 drug addicts in Sri Lanka, the island's Minister of State for Defence, Ranjan Wijeratne, revealed today in parliament.

He further said this has developed to a serious situation and that the country's capital, Colombo, has become a transit point, by both sea and air, for the trafficking of narcotic drugs.

Wijeratne said any VIP who extends patronage to drug peddlars and traffickers will be dealt with, no matter who they are.

The minister further said, "I have picked a team of men who cannot be bought over. It is an 'A' team. They will move soon in their hunt for drug barons."

Wijeratne also said that stringent laws will be introduced shortly to give more teeth to the existing legislation dealing with drug trafficking.



Crying for the dead

Relatives of an elderly Indian woman mourn over her body on May 13 after she was killed by a massive cyclone which swept through the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. The cyclone was responsible for over 500 deaths. (Reuter wirephoto)

Ball now in Washington court over the failure of US military bases in Philippines

MANILA, May 16, (Reuters): The onus is now on the United States to come up with proposals for the future of its bases in the Philippines after Manila formally told Washington yesterday it would not extend the present agreement.

The United States wants a new accord that would allow it to use its largest overseas military facilities at Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval station into the next century. Japan is also keen to see the Americans stay on to protect the trade routes of Asia and the Pacific.

But rapid political change following the ending of the cold war and pressure to cut military spending mean the United States may be uncertain what to ask for, and what to concede, in negotiations over the bases, says Professor

Merlin Magallona, associate dean at the University of the Philippines college of law.

On the second day of exploratory talks in Manila about the bases, the Philippines caught the US panel off-balance by formally serving a notice of termination of the 1947 agreement which allows the bases in the Philippines.

But the Philippines left the door open for a new treaty, and diplomatic analysts said the ball was now in the American court to come up with proposals on the future of the facilities and how long the agreement should run.

Rafael Alunan, spokesman for the Philippine negotiating team, said the serving of the termination notice was "an historic moment for Filipinos."

"We have taken the first step in terminating an

Sisters help Philippines' destitute



Mother Teresa meets President

Mother Teresa of Calcutta shows Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel her scapulary and a religious figure during their meeting on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)

only five kg (11 pounds), moved his arms freely in the air.

"His mother brought him five days ago. Sometimes they really cling to them, you know, they really don't want to give them up, but they have to," Sister Christopher said.

Fifty women at any one time are training at the Tondo headquarters to enter the Missionaries of Charity and they will eventually be sent to work in one of the order's 13 centres in the Philippines or overseas.

The Tondo centre's medical clinic treats 2,000 out-patients — 450 of them tuberculosis cases — who have fallen through the over-stretched government

health service net, according to Sister Maria Jose, an Australian who came to the centre eight years ago and who runs the clinic.

"The government says 80 per cent of the poor have TB — working here I can believe it," she said.

The government's tuberculosis control service says the figure is too high and includes cases showing tubercular symptoms and not just those with the fully developed disease.

"Eighty per cent in the slum areas of Metropolitan Manila is possible — the national average is around 54 per cent — but I think it's unlikely to be quite that high," said Dr Jaime Laghid, one

of the control service's medical specialists.

Laghid said the control service depends on the work of groups such as the Missionaries of Charity because the government's annual allocation of 150 million pesos (\$6.6 million) for the tuberculosis programme is insufficient.

The missionaries also feed some 70 destitute families a day. "They have no food, no money, no homes, nothing," said Sister Christopher.

According to the Department of Social Welfare's most recent figures, in 1988 only 3,160 of Metropolitan Manila's 7.5 million inhabitants were defined

as homeless and only 661 as destitute.

But Corason Alma Deleon, an undersecretary at the department, said this figure did not include 400,000 families who squat in miserable shacks often propped up on the capital's garbage dumps, or an estimated 75,000 street children.

"It also doesn't include those coming into Manila from rural areas, which, judging by the number of squatters, are increasing," she said.

"We're lucky that we get donations, all our work is paid for with donations," said Sister Christopher.

Imelda saved my mother's life

Hamilton, choked with emotion, testifies

NEW YORK, May 16, (UPI): Actor George Hamilton, choked with emotion, dramatically testified yesterday at the racketeering trial of Imelda Marcos that the former Philippine first lady saved his mother's life.

Called as a government witness, the dapper, gray-haired Hamilton, 51, said he met Marcos in 1979 in Manila while promoting a movie, "Love At First Bite."

Hamilton, in a gray double-breasted suit, blue shirt, blue tie and a surprisingly light tan, said a "basically social relationship developed" between his family and the Marcoses.

Under cross examination by Marcos attorney Gerry Spence, Hamilton said his brother, who was not named in testimony, suffered "the same disease as the president (the late Ferdinand Marcos)," who died in September.

It was not known when the brother died. Hamilton, his hands folded in front of him, leaned on the arms of the witness chair and said his brother suffered "liver and kidney

malfunction."

"When my brother died, my mother wanted to commit suicide," said the handsome actor, his head bowed, staring into his fidgeting hands. His voice choking, he quietly said, "Mrs Marcos brought my mother to the Philippines."

He paused, and the courtroom fell silent. "I think the only reason my mother is alive today is because of Mrs Marcos," he said after regaining his composure.

"Mr Spence, I think we ought to move on to something else," said Judge John Keenan, reversing himself on an earlier prosecution objection to the line of questioning.

The actor's emotional appearance was forced by a government subpoena and elicited with a grant of immunity.

Charles Labella, an assistant US attorney, questioned Hamilton about \$5.5 million he received as "good faith" money for a movie about the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur, World War II liberator of the Philippines.

The money was from a long-time Marcos friend, Glicerio Tancoco, and the actor testified he repaid the loan.

The urbane, self-described "actor-producer" was portrayed by federal prosecutors, who attempted to link the movie loan to the Marcoses, as an undicted co-conspirator in the case against the former first lady.

Mrs Marcos is being tried on charges she and her late husband, former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, conspired to buy New York real estate, art and jewellery with \$222 million stolen from their homeland.

Her co-defendant, former Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi, is charged with helping to hide the Marcoses' ownership of the real estate.

So far in the lengthy trial that began April 3, there have been several references to Hamilton. According to one witness, Hamilton accompanied Mrs Marcos when she inspected a valuable art collection she eventually bought.

EPRLF retracts

Lanka killing

MP's widow dies

COLOMBO, May 16, (UPI): A Tamil separatist group fighting for control in northeastern Sri Lanka retracted its statement of independence yesterday after meeting government officials but warned of renewed agitation if its demands were not met.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front said it would proceed with its plans for establishing a separate republic if the government did not meet a set of 19 demands.

A four-member delegation of the EPRLF, including members of Parliament S. Premachandran and A. Yogasangari, met for about 90 minutes with Sri Lankan Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne and presidential adviser Bradman Weerakoon.

The EPRLF, in a statement issued after the meeting, said its delegation explained "the circumstances that had regrettably compelled them to make a declaration regarding the establishment of a Democratic Republic of Eelam in 1991 and reiterated their commitment to resolving the problems of the Tamil people within a united Sri Lanka."

The EPRLF, backed by India, won elections establishing it as the head of the northeastern provincial administration.

But since the Indian troops completed their withdrawal from Sri Lanka this year and from the troubled northeastern region, another group seeking to make the area an independent homeland for its Tamil majority, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, has gained military superiority.

Seventeen policemen and two sub-inspectors, who had gone for soccer practice in a playground in Amparai in the eastern province of Sri Lanka, have been kidnapped last evening by the cadres of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), stated a security source based in the eastern province today.

LTTE gunmen also shot dead a Muslim called Lebbe Selabdeen in Akkarapattu in the eastern province of Sri Lanka.

25 killed in clashes in Philippines

MANILA, May 16, (AP): Government troops and communist rebels have clashed in the northern and central Philippines, leaving 25 people dead, the military said today.

Troops killed 11 rebels and suffered six dead in an encounter Monday with an undetermined number of communist New People's Army guerrillas in the town of Claveria, 432 miles (270 miles) north of Manila, a military report said.

A separate report said four soldiers and one rebel were killed Tuesday when a guerrilla band ambushed a military patrol on the central island of Negros, 480 kms (300 miles) south of Manila.

In the Negros City of Bacolod, two rebels were killed in a shootout with military men Tuesday, one day after a soldier was gunned down by suspected rebels.

The rebel army, which operates in most of the Philippines' 73 provinces, has been fighting for 21 years to establish a Marxist government in the country.

14 elephants shot dead in southeast Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, May 16, (Reuters): Fourteen elephants were shot dead, probably by Tamil separatist guerrillas, in Sri Lanka's southeast region, military sources said today.

The carcasses were lying near a road at Kumana, a wildlife sanctuary 130 miles (220 km) from Colombo, they said.

"An army and police contingent sent to investigate the killings was turned away by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam," the sources said.

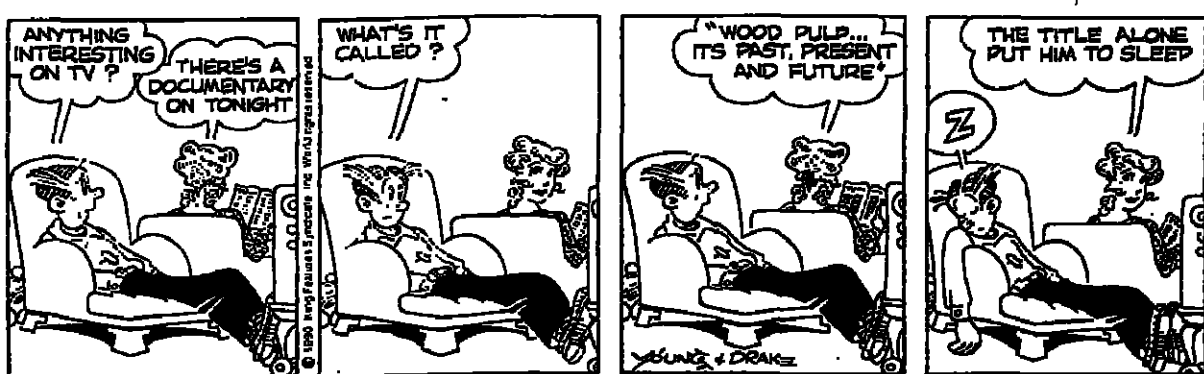
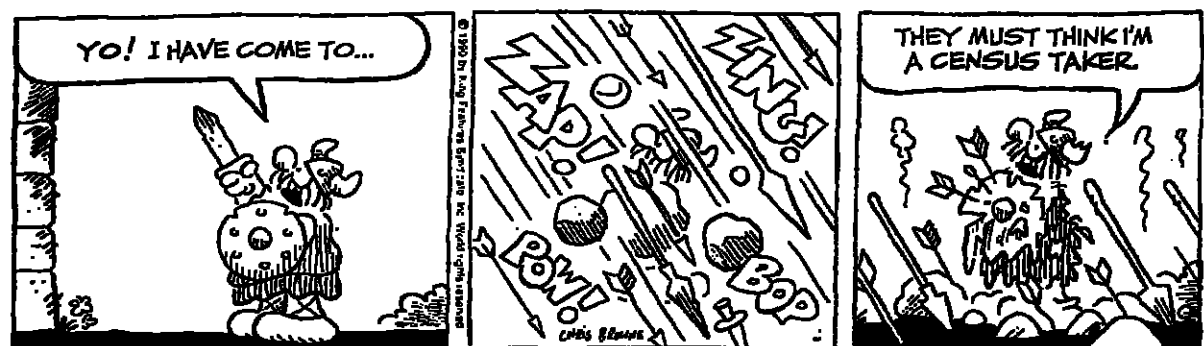
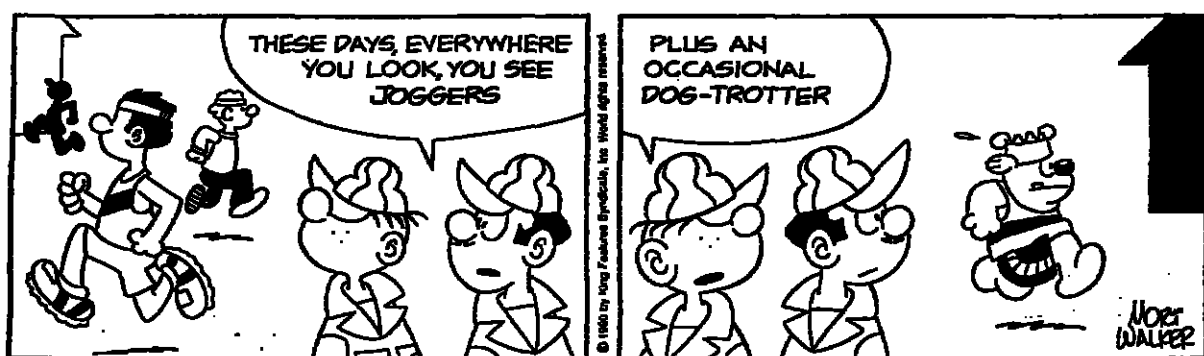
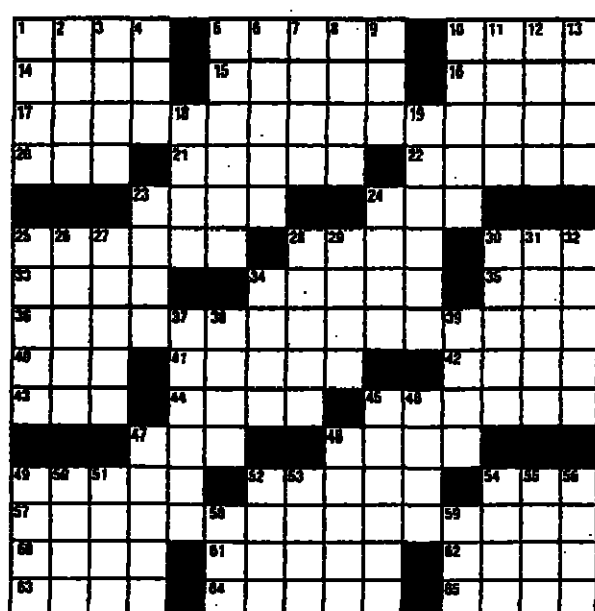
the US military presence and the winding down of nearly half a century of neo-colonial relationship with the US, said Amanda Doronila, editor-in-chief of the Manila Chronicle, who wants to see the bases removed.

Max Soliven, respected editor of the Philippine daily Star, said the talks were a game of bluff.

"The fate of those US bases beyond September 1991 is not what happens in Manila, but pivots on what may happen in the Soviet Union," he said.

"If Ivan the ferocious Russian bear has, indeed, been transformed into Misha the cuddly teddy bear, then Subic and Clark will have become a redundancy and a strain on the shrinking Pentagon budget," he stated.

The Philippines has a major economic stake in the bases.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUM** — By Bill Hoest**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- Entwine
 - A Ford predecessor
 - Ostracize
 - "La Bohème" highlight
 - Cheese from Holland
 - Rattan
 - Central Pacific archipelago
 - Dined
 - "— of Two Cities"
 - Jargon
 - British gun
 - Lyric poem
 - Lamp residents of fiction
 - Care for
 - Before
 - At the summit
 - "Give — a chance"
 - Darken
 - With US, law enforcement agency
 - Increases
 - Shaped like an egg
 - Yearn for
 - Prop for Palmer
 - Sympathy
 - Tease
 - A Caesar from Yonkers
 - Withered
 - Rockies resort
 - Organic compound
 - Grassy field
 - Nobel Peace Prize winner: 1953
 - Light tan
 - Trough
 - River to the
- DOWN**
- Nursery word
 - Part of QED
 - Father
 - Owens
 - Certain marbles
 - Heights, near Sea of Galilee
 - Zero
 - An Adams
 - Existed
 - Flourish
 - Put up a picture
 - "Bring to ruin"
 - Leathe
 - Steps to success?
 - Tastes
 - "— upon a time..."
 - Entire range
 - Public storehouse
 - Scandinavian
 - Irritable
 - Comfort
 - Public order
 - Nouveau —
 - Moslem prince
 - Town plan
 - Wishing
 - Very eager
 - Place for peonies
 - Took a looksee
 - Wanders
 - Animal fluid
 - Declare
 - Ripens
 - Denomination
 - Small opening
 - Sound
 - repetition
 - Sooty matter
 - Julie Christie role
 - Jolie de vivre
 - Treaty partner
 - Outside: Comb. form
 - Continuous murmur

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

OPES DAMES PAID
HEXA IHADA OBIE
OREM NADIR TRAM
HUMBUS ASADALISY
PANDEMONIUM
OUT DOT NSC
ALLA NNE KAPPA
KNOCKGALLEYWEST
SANTO FEZ ENSE
RED AEI ETS
GORDIANKNOT
RALLYING ICARUS
ENID TEASE TAMO
ENNA ORIEL ETUI
FATS RONAS REIME

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
HOW TO GUESS RIGHT

East-West vulnerable. North trump. With support for all the un-

deals.

NORTH
♦ A 10 9 4 3
♥ 2
♦ 4 3
♣ K J 10 8 6

WEST
♦ 2
♥ K J 10 9 3
♦ Q J 10 8
♣ A 7 4

EAST
♦ K 8 7
♥ Q 8 5 4
♦ K 9 7
♣ Q 5 2

SOUTH
♦ Q J 6 5
♥ A 7 6
♦ A 6 5 2
♣ 9 3

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass Pass Pass Pass
2♥ 3♥ 4♠ Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠
No, we are not miracle workers. When faced with a seemingly even-money proposition, there is no method we can offer which might improve your guessing ability. What we will try to do, however, is to show you that, in some situations, you can turn a 50-50 guess into a virtual sure thing.

North's cue-bid of hearts promised a two-suited hand of moderate strength with spades as one of the suits—holding both minor suits, the South would have jumped to two no

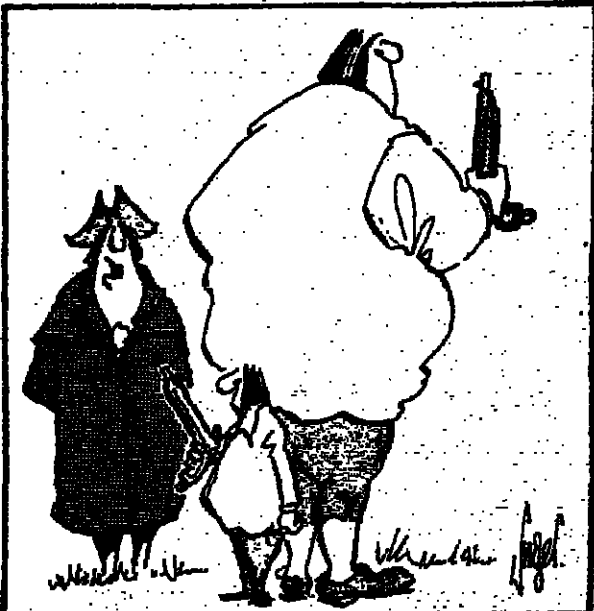
trump. With support for all the un-

bid suits, North would have doubled. No matter which minor North held, South's two aces, excellent spade support and shortage in clubs made the hand fully worth a jump to game.

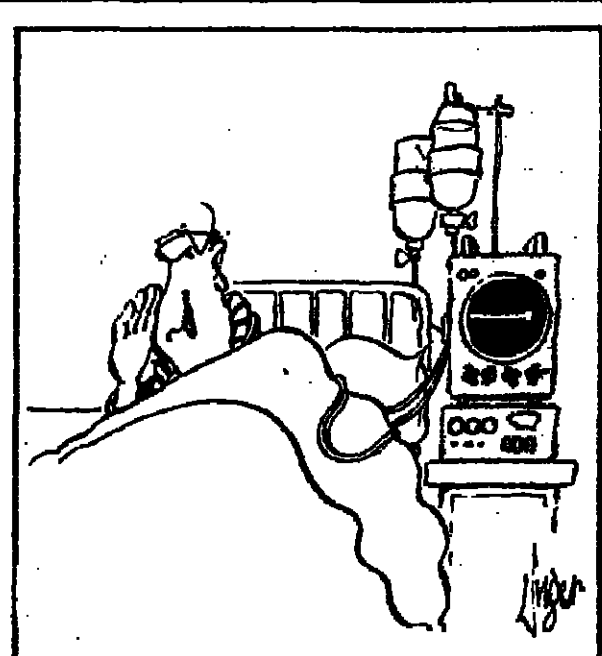
West's opening lead of the queen of diamonds was revealing, since it marked the king of diamonds with East and also made it unlikely that West held the king and queen of hearts—with both, he would surely have preferred to lead the suit his side had bid in an attempt to set up a quick defensive trick, or to collect whatever heart tricks were due the defenders.

To avoid a nasty club shift at trick two, declarer immediately won the ace of diamonds, then ran the queen of spades, losing to the king. South was now almost ready to claim the hand.

East forced dummy to ruff a diamond. Declarer came to hand with the ace of hearts and led a low club. West played low smoothly, but declarer knew the situation. Since West held at most seven points in the other three suits, he had to have the ace of clubs to open the bidding. So, declarer flew up with the king of clubs and returned the suit, won by West's ace. Shortly after, South was able to claim the contract when the queen of clubs appeared.

**YOUR STARS**

<p>Aries March 21 - April 20</p> <p>You will have good reason to be grateful and should not be too shy to say thanks. Avoid becoming involved in something that does not at all concern you. Try not to get into a serious argument. Be polite.</p>	<p>Cancer June 21 - July 20</p> <p>Make sure you do not allow dust to get into some sensitive equipment. Do not leave your partner in any doubt about your love and affection. Do all you can to avoid giving rise to a misunderstanding or to confusion. Be tolerant.</p>	<p>Libra Sept 23 - Oct 22</p> <p>If you depend on luck to get you out of trouble you really are in trouble. Are you sure your facts are right, they could well be out of date. Try to avoid anything that would distress or annoy any person close to you. Be accurate.</p>	<p>Capricorn Dec 21 - Jan 19</p> <p>Never mind if not everything is to your liking, you will be able to make adjustments that make things much more pleasant for you. And a few concessions things, you won't be able to. Be candid.</p>
<p>Taurus April 21 - May 20</p> <p>If you try to do too many things all at once some of them will end up not being well done. Work hard but do not forget about leisure time. Do not allow a hobby to get too much of a hold on you. Be generous.</p>	<p>Leo July 21 - Aug 21</p> <p>Make sure you do not say anything you do not really mean. Do allow for the possibility that something may not turn out the way you had expected. And leave yourself with sufficient room for manoeuvre. Be frugal.</p>	<p>Scorpio Nov 23 - Dec 22</p> <p>You should not hesitate, if you do may well miss a good opportunity. And do not allow your mind to wander, concentrate hard on what you are doing. Even if you do not agree with what another person should think hard about his views. Be sensible.</p>	<p>Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 19</p> <p>A door that has hither to not been well open to you, but you must act swiftly before it closes again. Keep your objectives very much in mind and beware of losing sight of them. Do not expect to be loved without loving in your turn. Be trustworthy.</p>
<p>Gemini May 21 - June 20</p> <p>If you have made a promise to be sure to carry it out however difficult it might be to do so. Concentrate on essentials but do not leave details out of account. A secondary matter could be left until later if necessary. Be tactful.</p>	<p>Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 22</p> <p>Take a little more interest in what is happening around you. Your lucky numbers are 7 and 22. There is a tendency to be clumsy so take special care to avoid dropping or tripping over things. Do not reveal any confidential information to strangers. Be reliable.</p>	<p>Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22</p> <p>You are liable to become rather too set in your ways, and should do all you can to avoid getting into a rut. Make sure you get all the rest you need but that does not mean becoming indolent or plain lazy. Do not try to use force where charm and persuasion had failed.</p>	<p>Pisces Feb 20 - March 20</p> <p>Something you have learnt recently will come into its own. You should avoid all kinds of exaggerations nor should you exceed reasonable limits. Listen closely to what others are saying. Be relevant.</p>



"Excuse me. The machine is making a funny noise and the little light is going in a straight line."



"They shouldn't be showing girls in bikinis when kids his age are watching!"

Life and times of a man named Ron

By Sham Seekins

BORN on the Fourth of July is writer-director Oliver Stone's companion piece to his Oscar-winning *Platoon*. Based on the book by Vietnam veteran and paraplegic Ron Kovic, the film focuses only slightly on Vietnam itself, equating Kovic's life with American life from the 1950's to the 1970's.

Kovic, reared on a steady diet of patriotism and John Wayne movies, was highly motivated by his Catholic mother into being a tireless achiever.

Ron (Tom Cruise) eagerly determines that going to Vietnam is his divine duty, but when he accidentally kills a young fellow soldier in the frenzy of battle, he is disavowed by his commanding officer from revealing the truth.

Later, when he is seriously wounded himself, he returns home, haunted by the guilt of his actions and is forced to endure a nightmarish hospital stay and afterwards to confront his family who do not understand how to deal with his handicap. Fury builds up inside him, leading to a grim and depressing alcoholic binge at a Mexican resort specialising in catering to paraplegics. With his morale at rock bottom he decides to rebuild his life, starting by confronting the family of the American soldier he accidentally killed.

Cruise turns in the performance of his career, appearing in almost every scene as the adult Kovic, Cruise's anguished transformation from gung ho marine to peace activist is acting at its best and one can understand how the film came to win this year's Oscar for Best Director.

Milos Forman has successfully breathed new life into *Choderlos de Laclos' Les Liaisons Dangereuses* by putting the accent on a youthful cast and concentrating the focus on the relationship between Valmont and Cecile rather than on the seduction of Tourville, as in the 1988 film *Dangerous Liaisons*.

Apart from the that difference Valmont also tells the story of the war between the Marquise de Merteuil (Annette Bening) and Valmont (Colin Firth) her former lover. If he can successfully seduce the fifteen-year-old girl Cecile (Fairuza Balk) who is about to



Ron Silver in Blue Steel.

especially the creatures are superb. *Blue Steel* would like to be a successor to *Fatal Attraction* and certainly it does have moments of genuine suspense. The story opens as Megan Turner (Jamie Lee Curtis) proudly graduates from Police Academy in New York. A lonely young woman, she has the makings of a good cop, but her very first night on patrol becomes her last. She corners and kills a robber who had threatened her with a gun, which subsequently disappears. It is judged that the rookie cop panicked and shot an unarmed man, so she is suspended. The missing gun, however, has been snatched by Eugene Hunt (Ron Silver) a commodities trader who had witnessed Megan's actions against the robber. He develops a sick fascination with Megan and starts killing people after having carved her name on the bullets. At the same time he is courting Megan, passing himself off as Mr. Right. When Megan finally sees Eugene for what he is, she is unable to convince her superiors and decides to take him out herself.

The above films are by courtesy of the video Club, Salmieh. Tel 5724372, Salmieh Complex, Kuwait City — Fintas Towers, Fintas — Safeway Complex, Farwaniyah.



Rekha and Radhika in Mera Pati Mera Hai

Indian Cinema

The 'other woman' resurfaces

Fiore Rangoonwalla
Bombay correspondent

INDIAN films are once again examining marital life and extra-marital attachments, thereby further exploring the psyche of women whose urge is to stray restrained by bonds of marriage.

Even as the echoes of *Gunsundari* (Why Husbands Go Astray) and even B.R. Chopra's *Pati Pati Aur Woh* linger several films are cropping up with new twists to this eternal conflict. A wife can't accept that her man can also love another woman and the other woman won't realise that the man owes loyalty to his family and children. It seems that a woman's worst enemy is woman herself.

This heart-breaking business of home-breaking was tackled grimly in films like *Aradhana*. But it has been given more entertaining forms in new films, previewed recently by some scribes. Among them *Mera Pati Mera Hai* directed by Manobala of the South, has a mixture of many elements to relieve the harshness of reality and guilt. *Pati Pati Aur Tawaf* tones down reality. Vinod Pande's *Sach*, Mahesh Bhatt's *Daddy* and some other films also touch on the subject.

In *Mera Pati Mera Hai* varying characters keep up the heat. Jeetendra is upright but confused by circumstances. Rekha comes off as a determined ambitious woman. Radhika appears as a jealous hot-tempered wife, given to rash outbursts and acts. And their daughter is a smart child scoring over the adults. There are also Anupam Kher as Rekha's brother, Gulshan Grover as a crook and Satish Shah as Jeetu's good landlord Dahyabhai.

As the story progresses, Rekha favours Jeetendra but he cannot marry her. Upal Dutta, the obstinate shrewd creates a further dilemma when he agrees to accept Jeetu's sister as his daughter-in-law only if Jeetu agrees to marry Upal's daughter Radhika, which he does. The poor guy tolerates things for his sister's sake. The wife is brash and never satisfied. To make it worse, Rekha returns to resume her friendship with Jeetu.

The wife goes bopping mad and spreads stories about the affair. Rekha is asked to leave her job. In retaliation, she takes a most unusual step of settling in Jeetu's house, saying "I will stay here". Even the daughter grows fond of Rekha. Radhika leaves the house in disgust. But old man Upal sees



Salma Agha plays the other woman in Pati, Pati Aur Tawaf. Above: Salma with Mithun

through Rekha's pretence and her love for the child. So he forces Radhika to return. But it leads to more quarrels. All this goes on till sense dawns on wife Radhika that every other woman is not a rival but can also be a friend.

In *Raj Kumar Kohli's Pati Pati Aur Tawaf*, inspired by a Pakistani film, again the characters and their circumstances hold the interest. Mithun is a busy actor, film maker. His pairing with Anita Raj leads to big hits. But he leads a happy family life with wife Farha and child. When Anita refuses to do a film with him, a search for a new face starts.

This leads them to a house of ill repute and the charming singer-dancer Salma Agha. But she has to be a gold-digger by virtue of her professional tradition. The pair clicks with the public and Mithun grows very close to Salma, neglecting Farha. He lavishes gifts, bungalow, and a car. A girl is also born to them. When Mithun's films flop, everyone

deserts him. He is driven to poverty and has a mighty clash with Salma, who is now rifling the pockets of a financier (Sumet Saigal).

Of course, the other woman in this case repents for her deeds but she too becomes helpless in solving the riddle. At the end she is left alone, while the husband returns to wife and family. Thereby, Salma's character also gains sympathy.

The two films stand in sharp contrast while talking about all those women and other women. Every wife is a woman but every woman cannot be a wife. Both films uphold the need and sanctity of marriage as a social institution.

How the Oscar was lost:

If Indian film-makers used their imagination, they would have found out "how the West was won" by films from foreign countries. But with their internal fights and false ideas, they have only shown "how the Oscar was lost" year after year, by Indian films in the "best foreign film" category of the American Academy Awards.

This year again, the silly mistake was made of sending *Parinda* as an entry. It was rejected at the first stage itself, with one of the three nominations becoming a distant dream. It's because this "ultimate gangster film" had nothing new to offer except flashes of technique. Such crime dramas are found dime a dozen. On top of that, *Parinda* had pinched liberal dollops from *On the Waterfront*, a former American Oscar runner.

Over the past many decades, no Indian film has ever won an Oscar, except for individuals like Bhanu Athaiya for *Gandhi* (costume designing). There was the muddle over Aparna Sen's "36 Chowringhee Lane" accepted because English language films from other countries are not eligible. Ramesh Sippy's *Sangar* was found to be a routine love tale despite lavish sets. *Pushpak* was compared to silent movies and yielded no results for Kamal Hassan's hectic campaigning.

Only two Indian films have so far succeeded in getting one of the three nominations. As best foreign film Mehboob's *Mother India* and Salmaun Bombay. Though both did not get the award, the nomination itself remains a distinction. But the Bombay-Madras folks play a trick by declaring that the film has been nominated, when it is merely sent up for consideration. It will be better if the folly of *Parinda* is avoided in future and typically ethnic and soulful films are sent, instead of the glossy and gorgeous.

Indonesia invades America

Festival to cover cultural aspects

By Frederick M. Winship

NEW YORK (UPI). An 18-month festival celebrating the arts and culture of Indonesia is coming to the United States, representing a major effort by the world's fifth-largest but little-known nation to capture the imagination of the American public.

The Festival of Indonesia will bring that nation's rich and ancient culture to more than 35 cities in 22 states. The Indonesian government currently is trying to get visitors to look "Beyond Bali" and at the rest of the 13,667-island archipelago, where tourist facilities are being developed.

The festival opens in July in Washington, D.C., and continues through 1991, which the Indonesian government has designated "Visit Indonesia Year."

It is an irony to Indonesians that some Americans who vacation on the popular island of Bali do not even know they are in Indonesia.

The festival should fill this knowledge gap by offering Americans a chance to sample the cultural diversity of Java, Sumatra, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, Sumba, Irian Jaya, Timor, Lombok and other areas as well as Bali.

The core of the festival consists of four major exhibitions ever to be on display in the United States.

It opens July 1 at the National Gallery in

Washington, D.C., and travels to Houston, New York and San Francisco, closing in January 1992.

The exhibition included 142 of the finest examples of classical Hindu-Buddhist art from the 8th through the 15th centuries, drawn from Asian, European and American collections.

Modern Indonesia is predominantly Muslim, but pre-Islamic myths and symbols depicted in this sculpture still nurture the nation's arts.

"Indonesia is sending us the best it has for this festival," said Dr Jan Fontein, research curator for Asiatic art at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, who spent the past year in Indonesia organising the exhibition.

He noted that one of the large stone sculptures, the seated figure of the goddess of Transcendental Wisdom, which may be the portrait of a historic east Javanese queen, is "the most important icon of Indonesia."

The figure was taken to Amsterdam when Indonesia was a colony of The Netherlands and returned in 1978 to the National Museum in Jakarta, Southeast Asia's oldest museum.

"We ought to be very grateful to the Indonesian government for loaning this sculpture for the first time," Fontein said. "Other museums and private collectors have been most generous and we are getting things directly from temple sites from which they have never travelled before."

"We also are getting some splendid recent finds. Indonesia's earth is still rendering up treasures. They are found mostly by farmers or are dredged from streams. We are getting a Buddhist figure recently dug up on the island of Lombok, where almost no archaeological materials have been found before."

Other objects are temple bells and lamps, decorative items and jewellery in bronze, silver and gold. After Islam became predominant, many metal objects were melted down because of the religion's strictures and figurines, so the rarity of some objects is notable.

The other major shows feature the art of Indonesia's outer islands, the court arts of Java, and 20th century painting and sculpture. Smaller travelling shows focus on woven textiles and batik-dyed cottons, folk art, jewellery, shadow puppets, dance masks, mythology and photography.

A dozen Indonesian performing art groups will criss-cross the United States presenting programmes of classic dance-dramas and modern dance, traditional "Gamelan" music and contemporary music, "Wayang" puppetry and theatre.

There will be an Indonesian Film Festival at the Asia Society and the Museum of Modern Art in New York in the spring of 1991. Material from American collections will include the Cincinnati Art Museum's important holdings of textiles. Most

familiar to Americans is the Indonesian art of batik, the national handicraft.

Handmade batiks feature rich abstract designs, flowers and birds. Batiks have been worn as ceremonial dress as well as everyday attire for both men and women for 2,000 years. The time-consuming hand-crafted process is dying out, having been replaced by commercial prints in batik patterns.

Another ancient Indonesian art familiar to Americans is the stylised dance, which tells the stories from the Hindu Ramayana and Mahabharata epics and is accompanied by the percussive music of the uniquely Indonesian Gamelan orchestra.

Dance companies scheduled for US appearances include the elegant troupe from the court of the Sultan of Yogyakarta and leading Balinese companies, including a troupe of young dancers and musicians, ages 10 to 14, whose professionalism will amaze American audiences.

Other cities taking part in the festival are Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Seattle, Los Angeles, and Honolulu, as well as Kalamazoo, Michigan, Tucson, Arizona, Lincoln, Nebraska, West Lafayette, Indiana, Madison, Wisconsin, Charlottesville, Virginia, Hanover, New Hampshire, Iowa City, Iowa, Knoxville, Tennessee, Salem, Massachusetts, Montclair, New Jersey, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Santa Barbara, Irvine and Oakland, California.

Mini-meet: Nana Patekar

Discovere

FROM a struggling stage artist, Nana Patekar, rose to fame and prospered his unusual looks and style mark him out to play character. He recently won the National Award as best supporting actor for *Parinda*.

Q. How do you feel about the National Award?

A. "I should have got it last year for *Trishagni*. I expected it this year for a Marathi art film. But I got it for an out and out formula film like *Parinda*."

Q. Were your talents discovered very late for the screen?

A. "Not too late at least, when I might have become wrinkled and bald (like Hangal)."

Q. Now what is your ambition?

A. (Laughing) "To stab the screen, set it on fire."

Q. Is it not a folly to make your own film *Prakhar* and project yourself as a hero, when the going is good as a villain?

A. "Stage artists never get typed. Moreover, the unusual film I am trying may be a hit like *Ankur*. And I am certainly not playing the conventional hero."

Q. It is said you dominate the shooting and even side-line the director, as in *Trishagni*?

A. "No powerful and determined director can ever be side-lined. It is only when he gets weak-kneed and does not know what to explain to his actors, that I lose confidence. Then everyone has a right to comment for the good of the film and get it done."



Nana Patekar

At yet another

90", what went wrong? He had gone for his new straight bat, lamented that the stars could not be Dimple, Anil, Manoj

At yet another

90", what went wrong? He had gone for his new straight bat, lamented that the stars could not be Dimple, Anil, Manoj

To be one up

other "great show" Pahlaj Nihalani producer wanted to raise funds for the poster Bappi Lahiri. Pahlaj's audio rights to Gulshan's Superhit were sold to Shatrughan Sinha with Dimple, Sanjay Dutt, Chunky, Govinda anywhere around

Showman Sub

But he prefers to current one being Kumar. So he keeps songs of his film stretch. Then he picture the song

Star Slips

Simi Garewal: "I had decided to make a TV film on Lata Mangeshkar. But it didn't work out since Lata expected a huge sum to be paid to her for the film. This is simply not done."

Amitabh Bachchan: "As for my angry young man image, the time was ripe. I was merely someone passing by who was picked up and given a role to play. It was a period when people needed to break out of repression. I played it and caught the public fancy."

Govinda: "Doing four and five shifts was killing me. How could one man work so much and that too in a profession where you have to look fresh and active all the time?"

Mithun: "What's wrong in Mithun Chakraborty doing all the gimmicks? Is not every young hero doing the same thing? It's one big rat race and more and more young men are dying to join it."

Meenakshi: "Producers and directors have forgotten that I have taken a professional training in dancing."



Mumtaz did not attend Pahlaj Nihalani night.



Amitabh at Oye Oye Nite

announcement that he will go to Kulu, three times more with the unit, to film different parts of the same song in different seasons.

Dear Junior Readers,

Hair is the slender, threadlike strands that grow out of the skin. There are many kinds of hair. Hair may be thick or fine, long or short. It may be white or coloured. It may be straight, wavy, or curly.

Scalp hair is not the same among the many peoples of the world. Oriental people

generally have hair that is quite straight. Negroes have tightly curled hair. Caucasians can have straight, slightly curly, or very curly hair.

So the colour, curliness, and thickness of a person's hair are inherited. A person is born with a certain structure and type of hair. But there is something about the structure of hair that determines whether it will be curly or not.

Imagine that you cut across of straight hair and a shaft of curly hair, as you might cut across two tree trunks. If you were to look at the cut section of straight hair under the microscope, you would see that it is round. The cut section of curly hair is oval or flat. The flatter the hair is, the more easily it bends and the curlier it is.

The colour of a person's hair depends largely upon a substance called melanin.

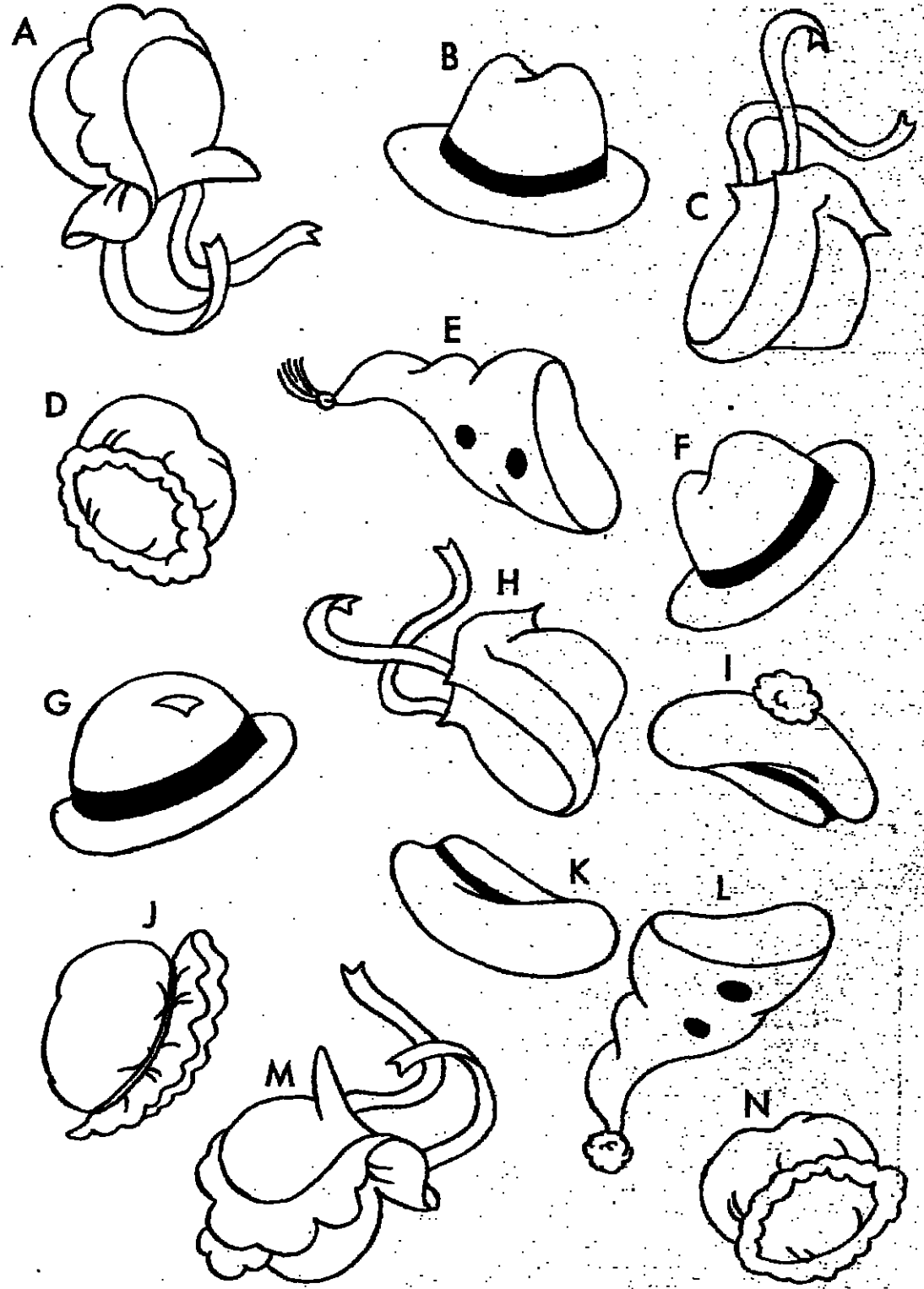
Melanin is a pigment, or colouring matter. It is contained in the hair cells at the time they were formed in the root. It is the amount of this colouring in the cells that makes hair dark or light.

As people grow older, there is less and less melanin in the newly formed cells. That's why the hair gradually turns grey or white.

Manol

Hat box

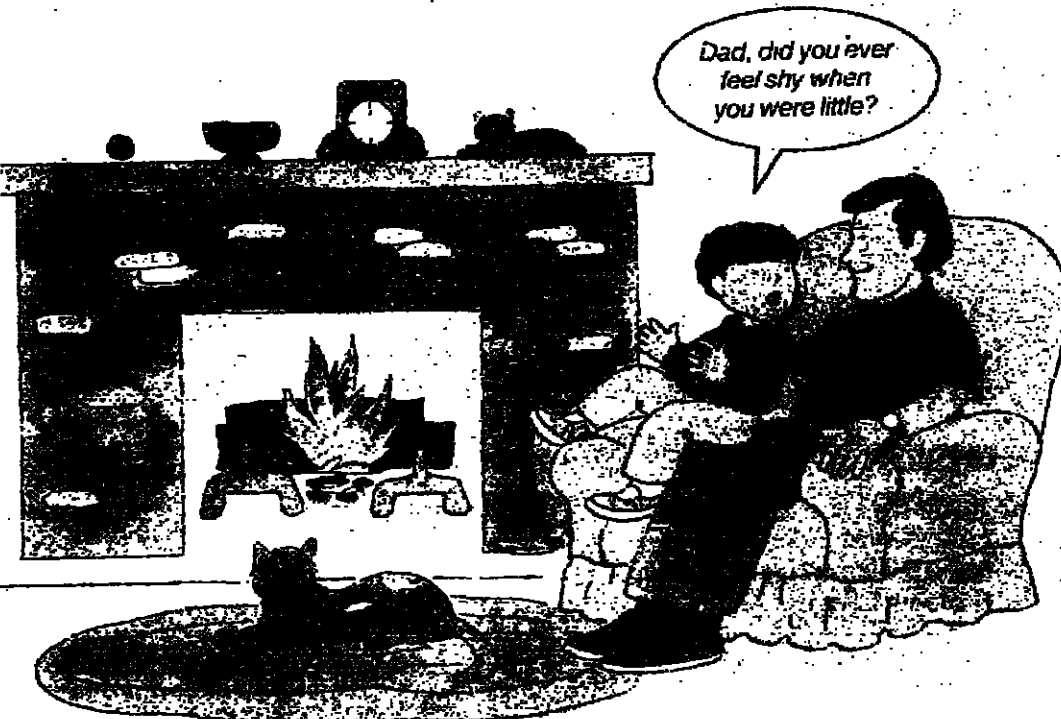
Can you spot the three pairs of hats?



Questions you'd like to ask

Why do I feel better when I tell someone about it?

Talking things over helps you to understand your own feelings. It also gives you the chance to find out how the other person feels. Often, you'll find the other person feels the same way as you do, and that's comforting.



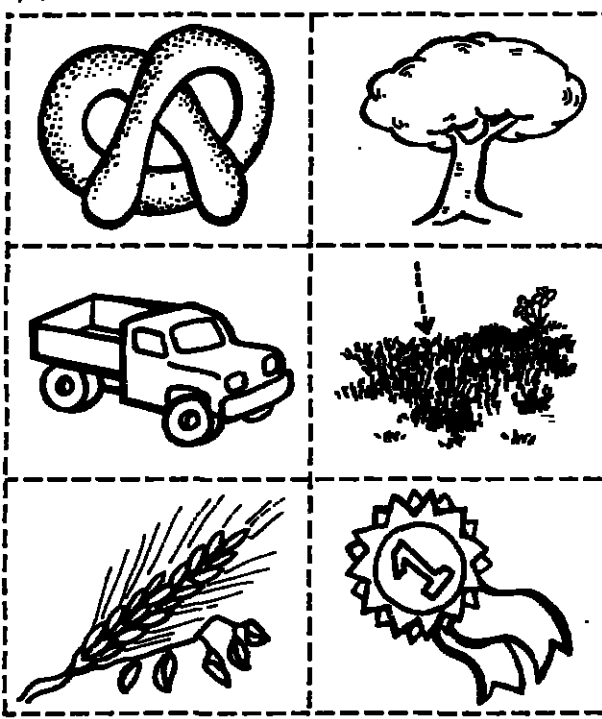
Dad, did you ever feel shy when you were little?



Cut out the pictures. Paste them in the right places.

gr	pr
gr	tr
pr	tr

Skill: Sound-letter association and discrimination of the gr, pr, and tr consonant blends.



What is love?

The patience of a mother, the strength of a man, the feeling for others, the smile of a son. Holding a babe, born unto you. Or finding a home in pastures new. The setting of a seed and watching it grow. Into what, we just don't know. But with loving care, we all can show. What we have created, is loving and true.

By Dorothy Howell, UK.

Did you know?

The Romans were very superstitious. They believed that a household would have bad luck if a guest entered it with his left foot first, so it became a habit to step over any threshold with your right foot first. So unlucky did the Romans believe that the left side was, that we have the word 'sinister' in English meaning 'evil'. 'Sinister' is Latin for 'left'.

Scientific Method

Some examples of ideas you can use to further investigate the topic of the changing Earth are listed below.

1. Which type of vinegar dissolves more egg shell in a 24-hour period — white distilled vinegar or red wine vinegar?
2. If you stir up dirt and sand in a glass and wait for everything to settle into layers, what will the bottom layer be — dirt, sand or a mix?
3. Can vinegar make a chicken bone soft?
4. Will grass planted in a pie tin of soil keep the soil from blowing away when the tin is moved toward a fan?
5. Will a carton of milk crack if it is frozen?

Keep a record of more experiment ideas of your own.

You may get ideas from many sources — workshops, in-service training, college courses, books, other teachers, science professionals, students, and yourself!

Science Experiment Form

Name: _____

Title Of My Experiment: _____

Question → What do I want to find out?



Hypothesis → What do I think?

Procedure → How will I find out? (step by step)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Conclusions → What did I learn?

Results → What actually happened?

Just for laughs!

What did the Mummy Ghost say to the Baby Ghost? 'Spook when you're spoken to.'

What do you call a drunken ghost? A methylyated spirit.

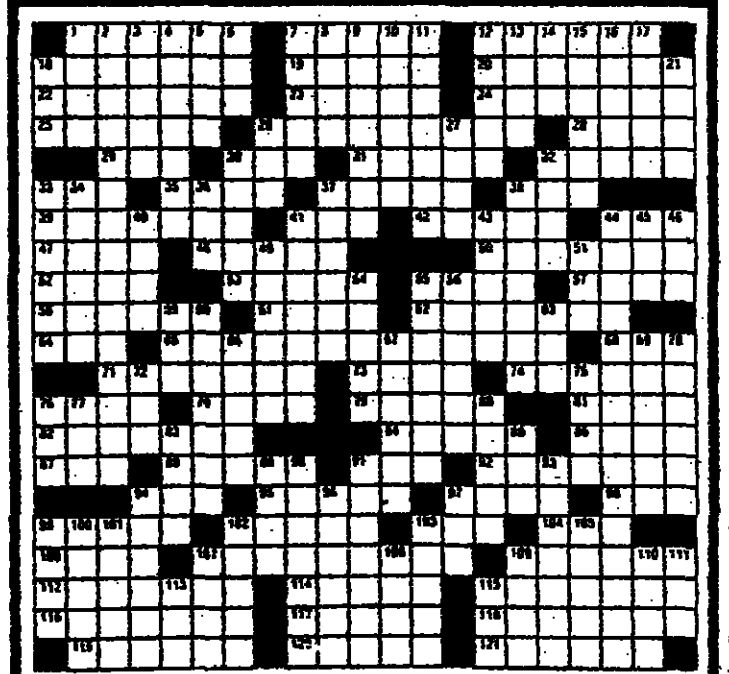
Why couldn't the skeleton

go to the ball? 'Cos he had nobody to go with.

What do you do if you see a skeleton running across a busy road? Jump out of your skin and join him.

What do ghosts wear in the rain? Boo-oots and ghoulishes.

Crossword



ACROSS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Pet | 20 Prove's state | 45 Something for meal eaters | 58 Mess, super- |
| 2 Crush with the foot | 21 Cal. county | 46 ETO name | 59 Visions |
| 3 Page fold | 22 Inland | 47 Schism | 60 Cow |
| 4 Jail | 23 Legation | 48 John - Pessas | 61 Gaze |
| 5 Seaport of Cuba | 24 Ship of Rome | 49 Substandard construction | 62 Always to poets |
| 6 Feline | 25 Gave up | 50 Campus org. | 63 Golf term |
| 7 Norman of TV | 26 Prepped as a fish | 51 Shale - I | 64 Wood comb. |
| 8 Eccentric oldies | 27 Predatory beast | 52 Gnarly | 65 Cover up |
| 9 Graduate march in Jan | 28 Wife of Prince | 53 Gnarly | 66 Retaliatory |
| 10 In a furrow | 29 "The House -" | 54 Gnarly | 67 Ancient Troy |
| 11 Available | 30 "The House -" | 55 Gnarly | 68 Shaped like |
| 12 Sunnier | 31 "The House -" | 56 Gnarly | 69 Base |
| 13 Everyone | 32 "The House -" | 57 Gnarly | 70 Ancient Troy |
| 14 Whittier | 33 "The House -" | 58 Gnarly | 71 Shaped like |
| 15 Lacoste et al. | 34 "The House -" | 59 Gnarly | 72 Base |
| 16 Individuality | 35 "The House -" | 60 Gnarly | 73 Ancient Troy |
| 17 Fairy queen | 36 "The House -" | 61 Gnarly | 74 Shaped like |
| | 37 "The House -" | 62 Gnarly | 75 Base |
| | 38 "The House -" | 63 Gnarly | 76 Ancient Troy |
| | 39 "The House -" | 64 Gnarly | 77 Shaped like |
| | 40 "The House -" | 65 Gnarly | 78 Base |
| | 41 "The House -" | 66 Gnarly | 79 Ancient Troy |
| | 42 "The House -" | 67 Gnarly | 80 Shaped like |
| | 43 "The House -" | 68 Gnarly | 81 Base |
| | 44 "The House -" | 69 Gnarly | 82 Ancient Troy |
| | 45 "The House -" | 70 Gnarly | 83 Shaped like |
| | 46 "The House -" | 71 Gnarly | 84 Base |
| | 47 "The House -" | 72 Gnarly | 85 Ancient Troy |
| | 48 "The House -" | 73 Gnarly | 86 Shaped like |
| | 49 "The House -" | 74 Gnarly | 87 Base |
| | 50 "The House -" | 75 Gnarly | 88 Ancient Troy |
| | 51 "The House -" | 76 Gnarly | 89 Shaped like |
| | 52 "The House -" | 77 Gnarly | 90 Base |
| | 53 "The House -" | 78 Gnarly | 91 Ancient Troy |
| | 54 "The House -" | 79 Gnarly | 92 Shaped like |
| | 55 "The House -" | 80 Gnarly | 93 Base |
| | 56 "The House -" | 81 Gnarly | 94 Ancient Troy |
| | 57 "The House -" | 82 Gnarly | 95 Shaped like |
| | 58 "The House -" | 83 Gnarly | 96 Base |
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| | 61 "The House -" | 86 Gnarly | 99 Base |
| | 62 "The House -" | 87 Gnarly | 100 Ancient Troy |
| | 63 "The House -" | 88 Gnarly | 101 Shaped like |
| | 64 "The House -" | 89 Gnarly | 102 Base |
| | 65 "The House -" | 90 Gnarly | 103 Ancient Troy |
| | 66 "The House -" | 91 Gnarly | 104 Shaped like |
| | 67 "The House -" | 92 Gnarly | 105 Base |
| | 68 "The House -" | 93 Gnarly | 106 Ancient Troy |
| | 69 "The House -" | 94 Gnarly | 107 Shaped like |
| | 70 "The House -" | 95 Gnarly | 108 Base |
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| | 75 "The House -" | 100 Gnarly | 113 Shaped like |
| | 76 "The House -" | 101 Gnarly | 114 Base |
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| | 79 "The House -" | 104 Gnarly | 117 Base |
| | 80 "The House -" | 105 Gnarly | 118 Ancient Troy |
| | 81 "The House -" | 106 Gnarly | 119 Shaped like |
| | 82 "The House -" | 107 Gnarly | 120 Base |
| | 83 "The House -" | 108 Gnarly | 121 Ancient Troy |
| | 84 "The House -" | 109 Gnarly | 122 Shaped like |
| | 85 "The House -" | 110 Gnarly | 123 Base |
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| | 87 "The House -" | 112 Gnarly | 125 Shaped like |
| | 88 "The House -" | 113 Gnarly | 126 Base |
| | 89 "The House -" | 114 Gnarly | 127 Ancient Troy |
| | 90 "The House -" | 115 Gnarly | 128 Shaped like |
| | 91 "The House -" | 116 Gnarly | 129 Base |
| | 92 "The House -" | 117 Gnarly | 130 Ancient Troy |
| | 93 "The House -" | 118 Gnarly | 131 Shaped like |
| | 94 "The House -" | 119 Gnarly | 132 Base |
| | 95 "The House -" | 120 Gnarly | 133 Ancient Troy |
| | 96 "The House -" | 121 Gnarly | 134 Shaped like |
| | 97 "The House -" | 122 Gnarly | 135 Base |
| | 98 "The House -" | 123 Gnarly | 136 Ancient Troy |
| | 99 "The House -" | 124 Gnarly | 137 Shaped like |
| | 100 "The House -" | 125 Gnarly | 138 Base |
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| | 103 "The House -" | 128 Gnarly | 141 Base |
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| | 105 "The House -" | 130 Gnarly | 143 Shaped like |
| | 106 "The House -" | 131 Gnarly | 144 Base |
| | 107 "The House -" | 132 Gnarly | 145 Ancient Troy |
| | 108 "The House -" | 133 Gnarly | 146 Shaped like |
| | 109 "The House -" | 134 Gnarly | 147 Base |
| | 110 "The House -" | 135 Gnarly | 148 Ancient Troy |
| | 111 "The House -" | 136 Gnarly | 149 Shaped like |
| | 112 "The House -" | 137 Gnarly | 150 Base |
| | 113 "The House -" | 138 Gnarly | 151 Ancient Troy |
| | 114 "The House -" | 139 Gnarly | 152 Shaped like |
| | 115 "The House -" | 140 Gnarly | 153 Base |
| | 116 "The House -" | 141 Gnarly | 154 Ancient Troy |
| | 117 "The House -" | 142 Gnarly | 155 Shaped like |
| | 118 "The House -" | 143 Gnarly | 156 Base |
| | 119 "The House -" | 144 Gnarly | 157 Ancient Troy |
| | 120 "The House -" | 145 Gnarly | 158 Shaped like |
| | 121 "The House -" | 146 Gnarly | 159 Base |
| | 122 "The House -" | 147 Gnarly | 160 Ancient Troy |
| | 123 "The House -" | 148 Gnarly | 161 Shaped like |
| | 124 "The House -" | 149 Gnarly | 162 Base |
| | 125 "The House -" | 150 Gnarly | 163 Ancient Troy |
| | 126 "The House -" | 151 Gnarly | 164 Shaped like |
| | 127 "The House -" | 152 Gnarly | 165 Base |
| | 128 "The House -" | 153 Gnarly | 166 Ancient Troy |
| | 129 "The House -" | 154 Gnarly | 167 Shaped like |
| | 130 "The House -" | 155 Gnarly | 168 Base |
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| | 133 "The House -" | 158 Gnarly | 171 Base |
| | 134 "The House -" | 159 Gnarly | 172 Ancient Troy |
| | 135 "The House -" | 160 Gnarly | 173 Shaped like |
| | 136 "The House -" | 161 Gnarly | 174 Base |
| | 137 "The House -" | 162 Gnarly | 175 Ancient Troy |
| | 138 "The House -" | 163 Gnarly | 176 Shaped like |
| | 139 "The House -" | 164 Gnarly | 177 Base |
| | 140 "The House -" | 165 Gnarly | 178 Ancient Troy |
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| | 142 "The House -" | 167 Gnarly | 180 Base |
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| | 144 "The House -" | 169 Gnarly | 182 Shaped like |
| | 145 "The House -" | 170 Gnarly | 183 Base |
| | 146 "The House -" | 171 Gnarly | 184 Ancient Troy |
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| | 148 "The House -" | 173 Gnarly | 186 Base |
| | 149 "The House -" | 174 Gnarly | 187 Ancient Troy |
| | 150 "The House -" | 175 Gnarly | 188 Shaped like |
| | 151 "The House -" | 176 Gnarly | 189 Base |
| | 152 "The House -" | 177 Gnarly | 190 Ancient Troy |
| | 153 "The House -" | 178 Gnarly | 191 Shaped like |
| | 154 "The House -" | 179 Gnarly | 192 Base |
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| | 156 "The House -" | 181 Gnarly | 194 Shaped like |
| | 157 "The House -" | 182 Gnarly | 195 Base |
| | 158 "The House -" | 183 Gnarly | 196 Ancient Troy |
| | 159 "The House -" | 184 Gnarly | 197 Shaped like |
| | 160 "The House -" | 185 Gnarly | 198 Base |
| | 161 "The House -" | 186 Gnarly | 199 Ancient Troy |
| | 162 "The House -" | 187 Gnarly | 200 Shaped like |
| | 163 "The House -" | 188 Gnarly | 201 Base |
| | 164 "The House -" | 189 Gnarly | 202 Ancient Troy |
| | 165 "The House -" | 190 Gnarly | 203 Shaped like |
| | 166 "The House -" | 191 Gnarly | 204 Base |
| | 167 "The House -" | 192 Gnarly | 205 Ancient Troy |
| | 168 "The House -" | 193 Gnarly | 206 Shaped like |
| | 169 "The House -" | 194 Gnarly | 207 Base |
| | 170 "The House -" | 195 Gnarly | 208 Ancient Troy |
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| | 174 "The House -" | 199 Gnarly | 212 Shaped like |
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| | 189 "The House -" | 214 Gnarly | 227 Shaped like |
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| | 192 "The House -" | 217 Gnarly | 230 Shaped like |
| | 193 "The House -" | 218 Gnarly | 231 Base |
| | 194 "The House -" | 219 Gnarly | 232 Ancient Troy |
| | 195 "The House -" | 220 Gnarly | 233 Shaped like |
| | 196 "The House -" | 221 Gnarly | 234 Base |
| | 197 "The House -" | 222 Gnarly | 235 Ancient Troy |
| | 198 "The House -" | 223 Gnarly | 236 Shaped like |
| | 199 "The House -" | 224 Gnarly | 237 Base |
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| | 201 "The House -" | 226 Gnarly | 239 Shaped like |
| | 202 "The House -" | 227 Gnarly | 240 Base |
| | 203 "The House -" | 228 Gnarly | 241 Ancient Troy |
| | 204 "The House -" | 229 Gnarly | 242 Shaped like |
| | 205 "The House -" | 230 Gnarly | 243 Base |
| | 206 "The House -" | 231 Gnarly | 244 Ancient Troy |
| | 207 "The House -" | 232 Gnarly | 245 Shaped like |
| | 208 "The House -" | 233 Gnarly | 246 Base |
| | 209 "The House -" | 234 Gnar | |

Telling and Asking Sentences

A sentence can tell. This is Bear.
A sentence can ask. Where is Bear?

A. Circle the telling sentence.

Draw a line under the asking sentence.

1. Bear is lost. 2. Is Bear happy?
3. Where is he? 4. Bear is in a sack.

B. Write a telling or an asking sentence about *This Is the Bear*.

C. Ask a friend what kind of sentence it is.

Happy birthday



Denzil D'Silva turns 5 on May 18.



Tina Bhaskaran on May 19.

Wordsearch

WHAT'S UP THERE?

"There is nothing uncultivated, nothing sterile, nothing dead in the universe; there is no chaos, no confusion except in appearance."
G.W. Leibniz: *The Monadology*, LXIX, 1714

AIRCRAFT	ETHER	MARS
ANGEL	FOG	MEN
ATMOSPHERE	GASES	MILKY WAY
BARRIER	GOODYEAR BLIMP	MIST
CABIN in the sky	HEAVEN	MOON
CLOUDS	ICE	MYSTERY
COLD	INFINITY	ORBIT
COMETS	LEM	OUR FLAG
DIRIGIBLE	LIGHT	PLANETS
DUST	MAN in the MOON	RAIN

RAINBOW	UFOS
ROCKET	UNKNOWN
Moon ROVER	VAPOR
RUDOLPH	WIND
SATURN	
SKY	
SPACE	
STARS	
SUN	
THUNDER	

P O R B I T M U C M O O N T A
M L P A E V N I E L S M E N T
I T A K I K A L L E O T A C M
L N C N N N B P S K H U O R O
B O F O E I B A O G Y M D E S
R A W I G T G O I R E W C S P
A N R I N A S L W T M A A C H
E I R R L I H Y S I P I A Y E
Y I R F I P T U R S N B S T R
D H R C L E N Y A E I D H T E
O U E O R D R T T N T U F S A
O I D A L A U E S S N S O O N
G U C O V R F K H D U F Y I G
R B C E N E Y T E T U D A M E
M A N M O O N R O V E R M E L

Baby of the Week



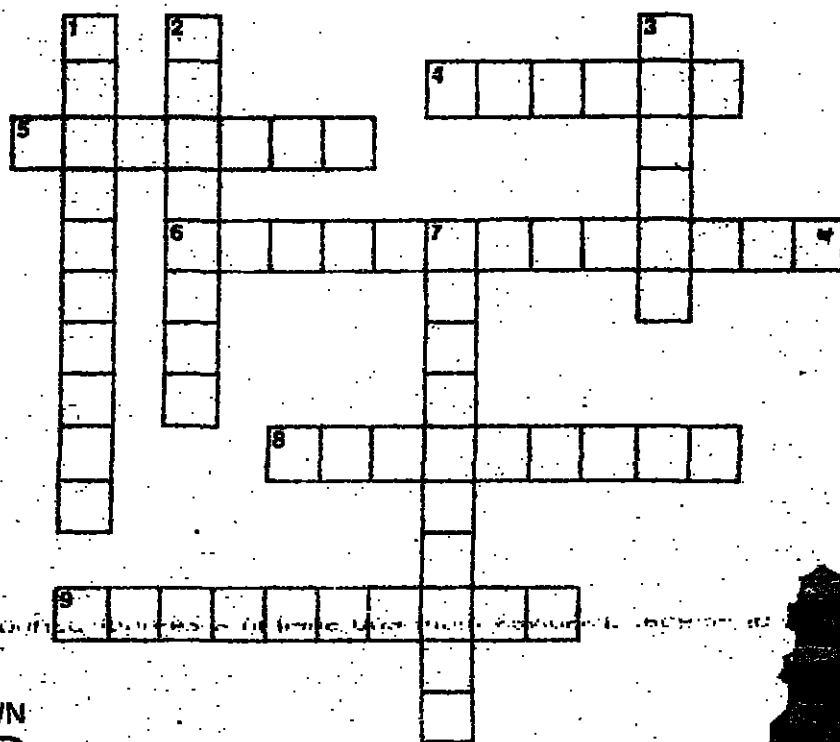
Saeed Mayad Hassan, 1-1/2, is this week's 'Baby of the Week.' Saeed has recently become a Junior Times fan!

Dot-to-dot A COUPLE



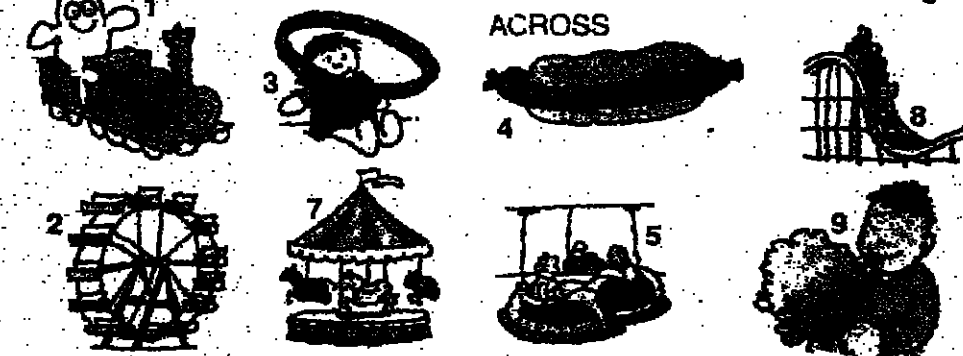
All the fun of the fair

The pictures are clues to the words in the crossword. Can you fill in all the answers?



DOWN

ACROSS



Crazy collages

Cut out pictures of animals, people or vehicles from magazines, comics or old birthday cards.

Cut these into different parts then stick them onto a sheet of paper, mixing the pieces to make funny characters.

Make up new names for the animals.



Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name: _____

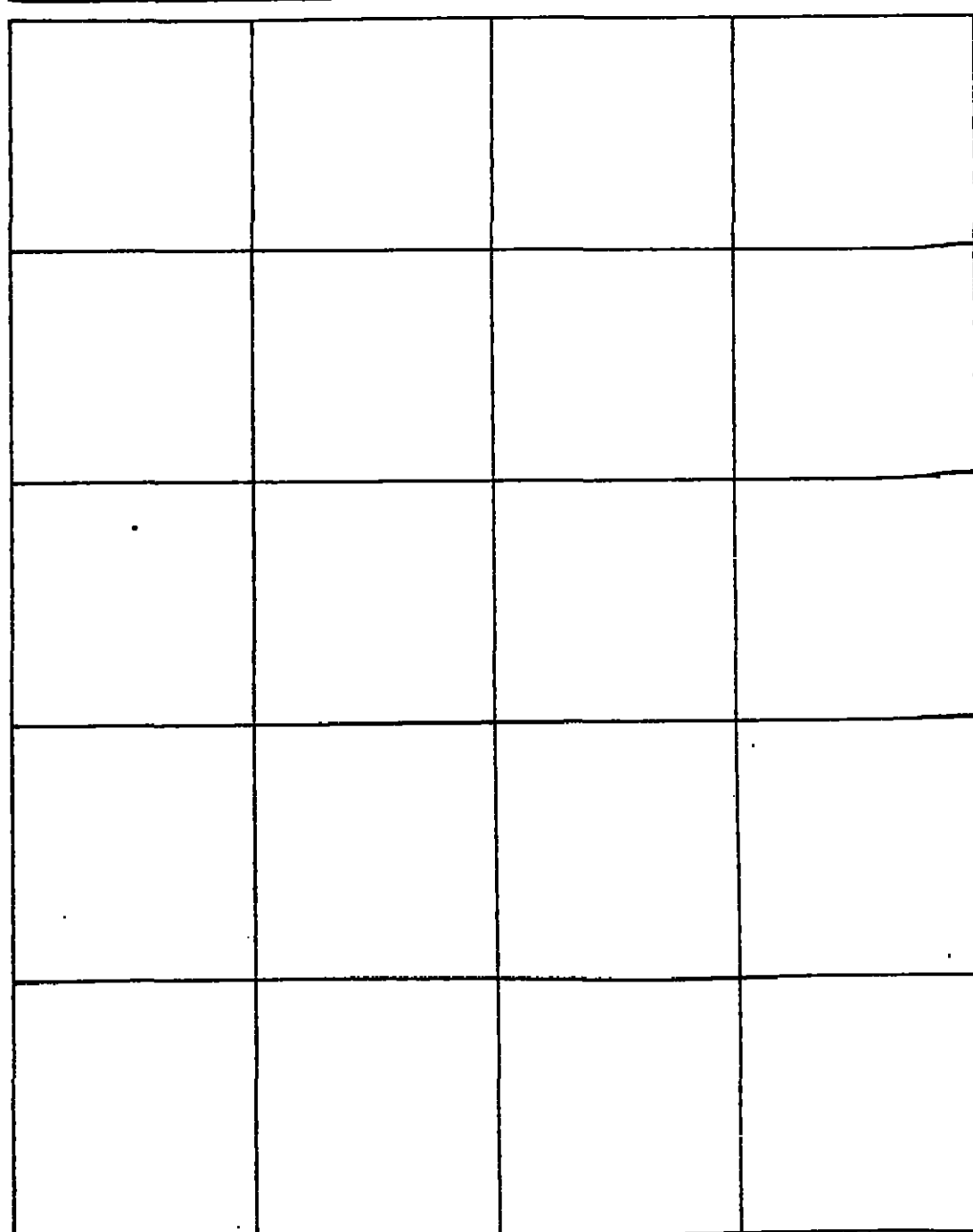
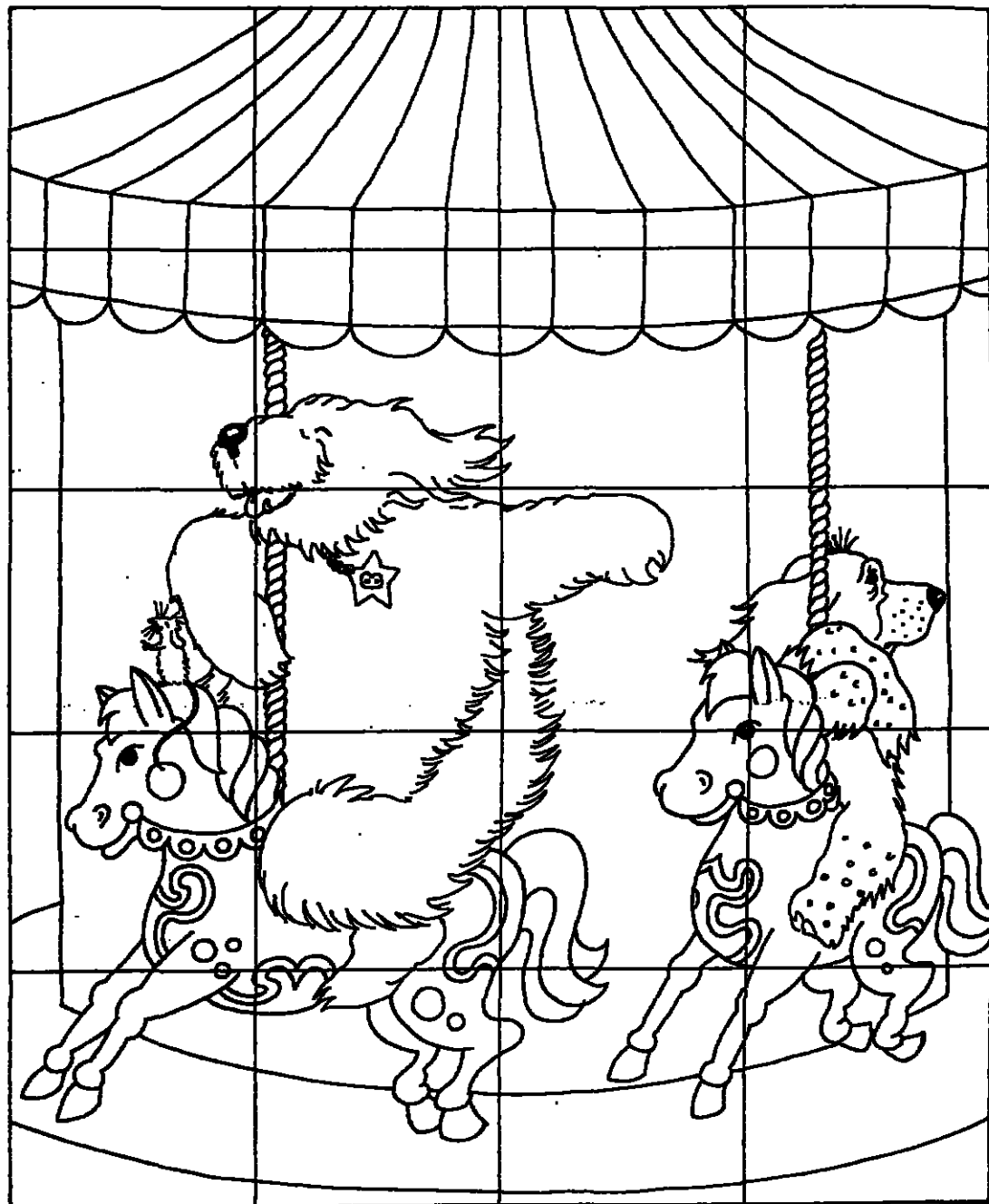
Date of birth: _____

School: _____

Telephone: _____
(confidential)

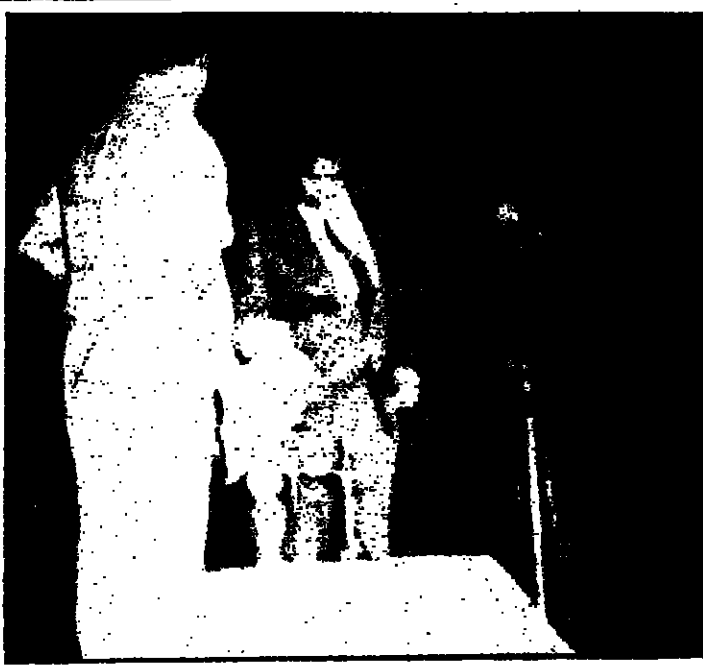
Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES
Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait
To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

Barney and his friends are at the fair
Copy the picture square by square into the grid



Thomas, Sherry, Leelamma and Shiny.



The inauguration.



K. T. Paul, Ameen Mohammad and Jaya Menon.



Some of the audience.

Narmada's 'A Love Mantra from Ujjain'

LAST Friday, the audience at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium witnessed the staging of a very popular Malayalam social play, "A Love Mantra from Ujjain" presented by Narmada Theatres.

The theme of the play was well in line with the prevailing social life in Kerala. The influx of politics, religious fanaticism and the like social evils were ironically characterised in the play.

Written by Varughese Paul, for Angamally Maanishada Theatres, the original name "Thirst" was renamed to "A Love Mantra from Ujjain" with the playwright's written permission, as given in

the souvenir released on the occasion.

It is worth mentioning that the play was much enjoyed by the fully packed gathering and their interest was evident from the fact that none among the disciplined audience left the auditorium before the play was over. The centre of attraction was Jaya Menon who played the role of Devo. Her movements and dialogue presentations were just professional. Ameen Mohammad as Shankunni Nair and Kuruvilla George as D. Y. S. P. Gopinathan Nair performed well. Thomas Kurien's policeman, although a little in excess of a comedian's role, was well received by the spectators. Vergis Mamen

as panchayat president in combination with Jaya Menon's Devo did excellent performance on certain occasions. Rajan Menon as Appukuttan, K. T. Paul as Vijayan, Prasad K. Mathew as Pastor and Chandran as Chakkunni did justice to their respective roles. Sherry as Sathi, Leelamma, a newcomer, as Ambika and Shiny as Sudha proved themselves to be worth, especially Sherry and Shiny had shown tremendous improvement in their performance when compared to their last roles in the play "Saakshi" (witness).

Rajendra Babu's lyrics were in tune with the theme of the play and Antony Joseph's

music added flavour to that. The singers were Asha Raghukumar, Rajan, Philomena, Ramesh and Baby. Even though the sound system gave little trouble occasionally, the audience were both compromising and understanding. Stage settings were marvellous. Ford John and Jayakumar did a very good job.

In general, the play was a unique one in every aspect when compared to those experimental stage plays presented in the past. Narmada Theatres has proved worthiness of their existence with their maiden public venture "A Love Mantra from Ujjain".

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening with the Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoon serial
9.45 Songs
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.15 Daily Arabic serial
11.00 Varieties
11.15 Open University
12.15 Local weekly programme — Huwar Wa Nagmah
1.00 News in brief
1.05 World Today Via Satellite (repetition)
1.30 Local variety programme
2.00 Songs
2.45 Animals
3.45 Weekly programme — Liqa Al Khamees
5.00 Cartoon serial
5.30 Public announcements
6.00 Daily Arabic serial
7.00 With Students programme
8.00 All Arts
8.30 Nour Al Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Daily Arabia serial
10.45 Arabic film — Al Mursheed (Informers). Starring: Farouq Al Feeshawi, Shreehan
12.15 Songs
1.15 News in brief
1.20 World Today Via Satellite and Close-down.

FRIDAY

9.00 Opening with the Holy Quran
9.20 Cartoons
9.45 Children serial
10.00 Songs
10.15 Children magazine
11.00 Religious programme
11.15 Friday prayers
12.50 Local programme — Alwan
1.00 News in brief
1.05 World Today via Satellite (repetition)
1.30 Religious talk
2.15 Arabic play — Hala Habeshti
5.00 Children serial
5.30 Public announcements
6.00 Kuwait in a Week

6.30 Weekly Programmes Review
7.00 Cultural serial
8.00 Family programme
8.45 Weekly talk
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Daily Arabic serial
10.30 Entertainment
11.45 News in brief
11.50 World Today via Satellite and Close-down.

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 Police Academy. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Mr Wizard's World. A variety of magical acts, illusions and scientific experiments. Training children on how to use or deal with information
7.00 Wild America. "Bob Cat". A look at the Bob Cat which lives on northern high lands.
7.30 Munsters Today. "It's wonderful afterlife." Jordan offers Herman a plan to form a new business but Herman remains reluctant.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Beauty and the Beast. "A time to heal". Diana takes Vincent to keep him under her care. He tells her many secrets and Diana, as a result, plans to give up her mission.
9.30 The Bill Cosby Show. Dr. Cosby is left to take care of his children as his wife goes away for a while.
10.00 Just for the record. The first restaurant in Australia which serves crocodile meat. A dangerous crossing of water straits by a boat... flying by a balloon.
10.30 Feature film. "Incident in San Francisco". Starring:

Richard Kiley, Leslie Nielsen. A crusading young newspaper man tries to prove the innocence of an accused murderer.
12.00 News in brief
12.10 Magazine D'actualite

FRIDAY

6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son. A cartoon for children
6.30 A Family Film. "The million-dollar duck". A duck lays an egg with solid gold yolks. This provokes interests from gangsters as well as the government.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking away. Recreational and entertainment activities carried out in various parts in Kuwait.
8.45 Globe TV. The first global television magazine and video window on the world, looking out on the planet, while looking in on our "global village"
9.30 The Weekend Programme. Interview with Edgar Pizanni, adviser to the French President. Kuwait's oyster market; pearl diving; entertainment spot; sneak preview: presented by Adeeb Shuaiber.
10.00 Tales from the Dark side. "It comes out in the wash". A business man is convinced by a Chinese to commit suicide.
10.30 Wiseguy. "The reunion". On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of college graduation Finnie meets an old girlfriend but he is warned that she works as a plain clothes woman.
11.30 News in brief
11.40 Magazine D'actualite

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Al Salamiyah
Arabic film
Al Hamra
Arabic film
Drive-in
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Waqt Ki Awaz
Fahsheel Open
Kasam Vardi Kae
Fahsheel
Sonar Nao Pabaner Batho
Al Jahra
Arabic film
Granada
Mad Mission V
Salaikhah
Kireedam
Jeeb
Jaani Dushman
Ahmadi Drive-in
Arabic film

FRIDAY

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Al Salamiyah
Arabic film
Al Hamra
Arabic film
Drive-in
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Waqt Ki Awaz
Fahsheel Open
Kasam Vardi Kae
Fahsheel
Sonar Nao Pabaner Batho
Al Jahra
Sisterhood
Granada
Mad Mission V
Salaikhah
Roller Boogie
Jeeb
Eshwar
Ahmadi Drive-in
Arabic film

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.25 am
Zuhr	11.44
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.34
Isha	8.01
FRIDAY	
Fajr	3.24 am
Zuhr	11.44
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.35
Isha	8.02

● All entries for the What's On Column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Isai Maalai

Bharathi Kalai Mandram, Kuwait, recently held an enjoyable musical evening called "Isai Maalai" at the Indian embassy premises. Several interesting items including classical, instrumental and light vocal music were presented by children and adults. Pictures show some of the performers and a view of the audience.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Indian Arts Circle
HERE'S good news for lovers of one-act plays. A wide variety of one-act plays to reach as wide an audience as possible is going to be staged from 17th to 31st May 1990 at the IAC auditorium for the 2nd IAC One Act Play Competition. After the roaring success of the 1st One Act Play Competition, 16 teams are planning to perform plays in languages ranging from Malayalam to Marathi. The inaugural offering is a Konkani play at 8 pm on the 17th May. Watch out for further information in this column.

Hyderabad Mushaira

THE committee for celebrations of four centuries of Hyderabad Deccan, is going to hold a grand Mushaira, on Thursday, May 17, 1990 at 7.30 pm at the Ice Skating Rink, Opp. TV Bldg, Kuwait. Guest poets from Hyderabad will participate in the Mushaira along with prominent local poets. Reserve your seat early to avoid disappointment. For passes and more information call Ehteshamuddin 2463116-7, Sikander Khan 5630557, M. Murtuza 5633880, Akhano 2402603/4, Khalish Hyderabad 4735591 ext. 34 (between 9.30 - 11.30 am).

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Lineker scores only goal of match

England edge past Denmark



Lineker got his 31st goal for England

LONDON, May 16, (Reuters): England kept alive the optimism of their supporters and extended their unbeaten run to 17 matches yesterday when they battled to a narrowly deserved 1-0 victory in a soccer friendly against Denmark.

A well-taken 54th minute goal by Gary Lineker, his 31st in 49 international appearances, settled the outcome but World Cup finalists England, lacking captain Bryan Robson in midfield, were unimpressive on a night when Denmark dominated for long periods.

Lineker struck when, from a quickly-taken free-kick by John Barnes on the left, Steve Hodge was sent free to produce a firmly-struck low cross which the England striker stabbed past Peter Schmeichel and in off the underside of the bar.

As the ball bounced down, the goalkeeper turned and scrambled it away but Scottish referee Jim McCloskey had no doubt it had crossed the line and immediately signalled a goal.

For Denmark, it was a harsh way to lose as they had produced much typically swashbuckling attacking football during the first half when England goalkeeper Peter Shilton was forced to make several important saves.

England raised their game after the interval, however, and the Danes were rarely able to repeat the sort of threatening

moves which frequently opened the England defence in the earlier period.

For much of the game it was Denmark, under the guidance of new coach Richard Moller Nielsen for the first time, and not England who played like a team on their way to the World Cup finals in Italy.

The Danes provided much of the sort of quality creative attacking play, mixed with muscular aggression, which was synonymous with their great team of the mid-1980s.

With Lars Olsen sweeping up at the back and a fluid five-man midfield in control, they carved out a steady flow of chances and 40-year-old Shilton to make good saves from Henrik Andersen, Olsen — after a defence-splitting pass by the elusive Michael Laudrup — and then Michael Laudrup himself.

In reply, England could muster only a few individual flashes from Barnes, who was well marked in his experimental central role by Kent Nielsen, before Lineker showed his scoring instincts remain as sharp as they were four years ago when he emerged as the top goalscorer at the Mexico finals.

The goal came during England's best spell as they responded to what was apparently stimulating halftime advice with much more urgency in attack. Steve Hodge, in particular,

seemed revitalised and his running on the left was a vital part of England's resurgence and the goal.

Once in front, England were able to retain control with some comfort but they still had the expert defensive play of the impressive Des Walker, covering alongside the statusque Terry Butcher, to thank on several occasions when the Danes broke through.

Chris Woods, a halftime substitute in goal for Shilton, was also called upon to save from a low, downward header from Andersen and an 88th minute close-range drive by John Venn before England could celebrate keeping their long run of success intact.

Teams: England — Peter Shilton, (Chris Woods 46th min); Gary Stevens, Des Walker, Terry Butcher, Stuart Pearce (Tony Dorico 46th); Chris Waddle (David Rocastle 70th), Paul Gascoigne, Steve McMahon (David Platt 78th), Steve Hodge; Gary Lineker (Steve Bull 70th), John Barnes. Denmark — Peter Schmeichel; John Sivebaek, Kent Nielsen, Lars Olsen, Henrik Andersen, Jan Bartram, John Jensen, Kim Vilfort, Flemming Povlsen (Morten Bruun 70th), Michael Laudrup (Lars Jakobsen 70th), Brian Laudrup.



Palace get one of their goals in Saturday's FA Cup match.

Palace call in Dyer for Cup final replay

LONDON, May 16, (Reuters): English Cup final underdogs Crystal Palace have called up utility player Alex Dyer to give them added flexibility in tomorrow's replay against Manchester United.

But Palace manager Steve Coppell has not yet decided whether to play Ian Wright, the Saturday's 3-3 draw, from the start or leave him on the bench until he is needed.

Substitute Wright came on in the 70th minute for the south London side and still scored two goals.

"I will probably leave it until the last minute again before announcing my decision," Coppell said. "I think if I announced that Wright was playing, then United would make their plans accordingly."

Everyone

Dyer, who joined Palace in 1988 and can play almost anywhere, is the only addition to the Palace squad.

Manchester United, meanwhile, were still waiting on Wednesday for news of key defender Gary Pallister, who has an ankle injury.

KTV will telecast match live on Channels 6 and 45 at 9.30 pm.

"His chances are no more than 50-50. He'll need every minute left on the clock," said manager Alex Ferguson, who bought Pallister for £2.3 million (\$3.8 million).

Palace's Coppell said: "Everyone keeps telling me favourites always come through given a second chance. Recent history at Wembley proves that. We'll have to see."

Coppell himself, then a player, was watching from the stands when United beat underdogs Brighton 4-0 in the last FA Cup final replay seven years ago.

"It's like a game of poker where both teams have laid a hand on the table. It's a question of what they've got left uncovered," the Palace manager said.

Palace's more pressing problem today, however, was getting hold of new kit. Both Palace's normal strips have been found to clash with the United colours.

"We've had a bit of a botch-up on the kit," said Coppell. "It was a communication problem. I said yellow and black stripes but they thought I wanted yellow with black trim."

West Germany look to Haessler for Cup title

FRANKFURT, West Germany, May 16, (AP): After shooting West Germany into the World Cup finals, Thomas Haessler's next mission will be to guide his team to its third title.

Then, successful or not, Haessler will stay in Italy to become another soccer millionaire in the richest league in the world, joining Juventus Turin for a sum reported to be close to 18 million marks (\$10.5 million).

That makes Haessler the most expensive West German player in history. Experts say he is worth it.

Haessler is the most valuable German player at the moment," says Udo Lattek, the winningest coach in the country and now a prominent soccer commentator.

The World Cup will crown Haessler meteoric rise from an unknown player who was not even a regular starter for FC Cologne to West Germany's main World Cup hope and its irreplaceable midfield strategist.

In 1988, Haessler was not even considered by West German manager Franz Beckenbauer for the European championships.

But a series of good League games caught the eye of Beckenbauer. Haessler made his international debut on Aug. 31, 1988 as West Germany opened its World Cup campaign with a 4-0 win over Finland.

A year later, Haessler was overwhelmingly voted West Germany's Player of 1989.

Only five stadiums ready for Cup finals

ROME, May 16, (Reuters): Many Italians will get little sleep for the next three weeks as labourers work round the clock to transform building sites into soccer stadiums, roads, car parks and railways in time for next month's World Cup finals.

"We are very worried about the state of building work in many of the stadiums," Luca di Montezemolo, head of the Italian World Cup organising committee, told reporters.

"It really seems that in some cases they will be ready only at the last minute when the teams come onto the pitch and the referee blows his whistle for the kick-off," he said.

Only five of the 12 stadiums were ready for the month-long competition when the official deadline for completion of all Cup-related construction passed at midnight yesterday.

Three more still need major modernisation before the June 8 kick-off, with the other four also undergoing last minute repairs.

Major work is still underway at the stadiums in Naples, Florence and Rome — due to be officially opened by the Pope on May 31.

Those in Udine, Verona, Bologna, Bari and Cagliari are ready, and local officials say finishing touches only are needed at Palermo, Genoa, Turin and Milan — where the pitch had to be completely re-turfed earlier this month.

Local World Cup committees have given assurances that all the grounds will be ready on time but trade union leaders say costs for the stadiums and other projects have soared from a planned \$5.5 trillion lire (\$4.4 billion) to about seven trillion lire (\$5.6 billion).

They also lament that 24 workers have been killed and 634 injured in the past year during preparations for the tournament.

"As far as we are concerned, the game has already been lost," said Giorgio Benvenuto, leader of the UIL Trade Union confederation. But the story does not end there.

Newspaper surveys published today painted a sorry picture in most of the 12 Italian cities. Many of the planned new car parks, railways, motorway links and road-widening schemes have either been scrapped or are way behind schedule.

Areas immediately outside many of the grounds still resemble building sites. Heavy machinery, cluttered spectator entrances, approach roads and half-completed car parks.

Rome, where three million tourists are expected to double the population during the competition, has been hit by roadwork chaos as streets have been dug up all over the city to lay the telephone and power lines.

"Despite the fact that the World Cup was assigned to Italy in 1984, we have managed, particularly in Rome, to do everything at once," said Di Montezemolo.

This had "created problems for ordinary people and we run the risk of getting to June with road works still underway, tarnishing the image of the whole city," he added.

One of the main projects still to be finished in Rome is a rail terminal linking the capital with the international Fiumicino airport 35 km (22 miles) away. Travellers currently must choose between a 45-minute coach ride or an expensive taxi.

Rome mayor Franco Carraro, Italy's sports minister until last December, said this week he was sure all the city projects would be finished in time.

"We are lazy as programmers but great at improvising. We started late because it's a bit in the Italian nature — it's difficult in 1984 to think about what will happen in 1990," he told reporters.

Building firms which missed the official deadline have put staff on overtime to finish the work. But they risk fines amounting to three per cent of the value of the contract for failing to complete on time.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rome police

ROME, May 16, (Reuters): Traffic police in Rome will stage a six-day strike to coincide with the start of next month's soccer World Cup. The trade union representing the officers said in a statement yesterday they were protesting against inadequate resources from the Rome City council.

Yugoslav team

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, May 16, (Reuters): Dinamo Zagreb threatened to pull out of Yugoslavia's First Division yesterday after rivals Red Star Belgrade were awarded a 3-0 win in a match cancelled because of crowd riots on Sunday.

Colombian squad

BOGOTA, Colombia, May 16, (Reuters): Colombia's soccer squad left for Italy yesterday for the final stage of preparation for its first World Cup appearance in 28 years.

Romanian star

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, May 16, (AP): Romania's star midfielder George Hagi will join Spanish champion Real Madrid after the World Cup in Italy, a Yugoslav soccer official said yesterday.

E. German athlete

BONN, May 16, (Reuters): Leading East German athlete Heike Drechsler said today she was barred for years under the state's former communist rulers from taking a break from sport to have a baby.

Walwyn quitting

LONDON, May 16, (Reuters): Veteran Fulke Walwyn, horse race trainer for the mother of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, is to retire at the end of this season after a training career spanning 51 years and 2,300 wins over jumps.

Japan Cup

TOKYO, May 16, (AP): The world champion Soviet Union, controlling the pick most of the game, trounced Japan 10-2 today in the three-nation Super Ice Hockey Japan Cup.

Libertadores Cup

SANTIAGO, May 16, (Reuters): Colo Colo (Chile) beat Union Huaral (Peru) 3-1 (halftime 1-0) in a South American Libertadores Cup Group Three soccer match yesterday.

Match postponed

BUCHAREST, May 16, (Reuters): Romania's World Cup warm-up soccer match against fellow-finalists Egypt this Sunday has been postponed 24 hours, because it clashes with the country's elections.

Inquiry starts

PARIS, May 16, (UPI): The French Soccer League yesterday began an inquiry into Saturday's First Division scoreless draw between Monaco and Montpellier, but declined to comment on the reason for the probe.

Portuguese club

MALMO, Sweden, May 16, (UPI): Top Portuguese soccer club Benfica has joined in the bidding for Swedish international defender Stefan Schwarz. Swedish daily newspaper Expressen reported yesterday. Representatives from Benfica will come to Malmo next week to negotiate a contract. Malmo's director Tord Grip said.

British player

BRUSSELS, May 16, (UPI): British soccer player Andy Clement, who plays for English First Division club Wimbledon, is training with Belgian side racing Mechelen.

Three honoured

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida, May 16, (AP): Gene Litter, the 1961 US Open champion and seven-time Ryder Cup team member, and three other golfers have been elected to the Professional Golf Association world golf Hall of Fame. Joining Litter in the hall will be Bill Campbell, a past president of the US Golf Association, two-time PGA champion Paul Runyan and the late Horton Smith, winner of the first Masters in 1934.

World Cup bonuses keep soaring

WINNING the World Cup in Italy means more than team pride. Bonuses from national soccer federations and shares of sponsorship contracts could total as much as \$270,000 for each player from countries such as Italy.

Bonuses paid by the individual soccer federations have soared over the last decade, but money from other sources such as sponsorship deals and movie contracts have inflated the amounts even more.

Each of Italy's 22 players reportedly earned \$200,000 for winning the 1982 World Cup in Spain. Argentina's players earned about \$80,000 apiece for winning the 1986 World Cup in Mexico — a figure that included a bonus from the Argentina federation plus money from a movie "heroes" made about the team's triumph.

Most countries do not officially disclose their bonuses. Italian players, whose federation is one of the richest in the world, reportedly will receive between \$260,000 and \$270,000 according to press accounts.

That is above any individual endorsement contracts players sign after the tournament, such as Italy's 1982 World Cup hero Paolo Rossi, who signed a \$2-million endorsement deal after the championship.

Press reports in England say the British players are expected to receive £60,000 (\$100,000) each if they win the trophy and half of that if they get to the semifinal.

In West Germany, each player is guaranteed 125,000 marks (\$73,500), from their soccer federation for a victory in the final. Players also get a share of sponsorship deals and are assured another 40,000 marks (\$23,500) apiece even before they arrive in Italy.

West Germany players also will get money from a record they made with local pop star Udo Jurgens.

West Germany's players will share 60 per cent of all World Cup-related contracts sig-

ned by the federation.

Some estimate that could total 500,000 marks (nearly \$300,000), but others believe that figure is exaggerated and more reliable estimates peg the amount at around 200,000 marks (about \$118,000).

Players from the Spanish team will have almost as good a deal. Each player already has been guaranteed 3 million pesetas (\$29,125) for qualifying and that amount increases for each successive round reached up to 10 million pesetas (\$97,000) for a World Cup championship.

Spain's manager, Luis Suarez, will get \$194,000, double the players' bonus, should his squad win.

For some nations, where qualifying is as major an accomplishment as winning the Cup is to the soccer powerhouses, players already have been rewarded.

In the United Arab Emirates, the smallest nation ever to qualify for the quadrennial championship, players received nearly 1 million dirhams (\$368,000) each just for making the 24-team World Cup final field.

Half of the money was contributed by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, with the other half from the various rulers of the seven emirates in the UAE.

The UAE football federation has made an official offer of 50,000 dirhams (\$13,500) per player for every match that they win in Italy, and 25,000 dirhams or half the amount for each draw.

But aside from that, the players are expected to be showered with money, villas and limousines from the rulers, the sheikhs and avid rich fans.

The Emirates, drawn with Colombia, West Germany and Yugoslavia, are not expected to tie a game, let alone win one.

Funding for the bonuses comes from several sources, including lump-sum

payments by Fifa, the world governing body of soccer, to World Cup qualifying federations.

The United States, which lacks a professional outdoor league, has had players under yearly contracts for about \$30,000 since after the 1988 Olympics.

After a squabble with players in January over the contracts, the US Soccer Federation agreed to give players bonuses from unexpected profits made from exhibition games this spring — regardless of their performance in Italy.

But the money has also been a source of controversy.

Brazilian players last week posed for team pictures with their hands over a sponsor's name on their warmup suits and practiced with their shirts, also bearing the sponsor's name, inside out to protest what they considered inadequate bonuses.

The Brazilian soccer confederation had signed a \$1 million sponsorship deal with a local subsidiary of multi-national PepsiCo, and agreed to pay players \$7,000 bonuses should they win the World Cup.

To resolve the issue, confederation officials agreed to pay the players 25 per cent of the money remaining from all sources after expenses for preparing and sending the team to Italy were paid.

The Netherlands, another World Cup favourite, has had a similar dispute.

Star Dutch striker Ruud Gullit has openly criticised the Royal Dutch Soccer Federation for offering "the lowest players' bonuses around." He and fellow stars Marco Van Basten and Frank Rijkaard say they will give their shares, 120,000 guilders (\$65,220), to their teammates if they win the title.

In Sweden, given an outside shot at the title, players will get about half of what the Dutch team has been offered.

(AP)

Graf crushes Piccolini to reach fourth round

Mancini knocks Leconte out of Italian Open

WEST BERLIN, May 16, (Agencies): Steffi Graf of West Germany moved into the fourth round of the West Berlin women's tournament today with an easy victory over Katia Piccolini of Italy.

The West German world No. 1 showed no mercy to her Italian opponent whom she ruthlessly crushed 6-0 6-1. This was her second consecutive easy victory, after scoring a 6-1 6-2 victory over Mercedes Paz of Argentina yesterday.

Joining Graf in the fourth round was 13-seeded Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union who fought back after losing the first set to beat fifth-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 4-6 6-2 6-0. Meskhi's defeat in the first set did not indicate an upset in the making but she swept her opponent off her feet as she easily took the next two sets to register the first major upset of the tournament.

Monica Seles of Yugoslavia continued where she left off after winning the Italian Open title earlier this week when she thrashed Nicole Jagerman of Netherlands 6-1 6-0.

Also progressing to the third round was Gabriela Sabatini, the third seed, who also scored an easy 6-2 6-1 victory over Elise Burgin of the United States in her first match of the tournament.

Results at the West Berlin women's tennis tournament today (prefix number denotes seeding):

Second round: 2-Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) beat Nicole Jagerman (Neth-



Graf had an easy game

erlands) 6-1 6-0
3-Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) beat Elise Burgin (US) 6-2 6-1
4-Mary Joe Fernandez (US) beat Sabine Hack (West Germany) 6-3 6-3
Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria) beat 12-Helen Klesi (Canada) 6-0, retired hurt.
16-Sandra Cecchini (Italy) beat Janine Thompson (Australia) 3-6 6-3 7-5

Third round:
13-Leila Meskhi (Soviet Union) beat 5-Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria) 4-6 6-2 6-0
1-Steffi Graf (West Germany) beat Katia Piccolini (Italy) 6-0 6-1
Defending Italian Open champion Alberto Mancini, the 16th seed, eliminated Frenchman Henri Leconte 6-4, 6-4 today in the second round of the Italian Open men's tennis championship.



Mancini, who finished 1989 as the 9th ranked player in the world, has dropped this year to No. 24. But he appears to be making a comeback.

Meanwhile, Aaron Krickstein of the United States took just 60 minutes to dispense with Karel Novacek 6-2, 6-3 in another second round match.

Krickstein, the No. 2 seed, was in control from start to finish, setting the pace with an excellent

topspin forehand which kept Novacek on the defensive.

Austria's Thomas Muster, the No. 10 seed, also made it to the third round when Anders Jarryd withdrew with a calf injury.

No. 4 seed Emilio Sanchez of Spain outlasted Uruguay's Marcelo Filippini 4-6, 6-1, 6-3. No. 12 seed Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina beat France's Jean-Philippe Fleurian 6-3, 6-1. The 13th seed, Jonas Svensson of

Sweden, advanced with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Spain's Tomas Carbonell.

Jan Gunnarsson, who ousted 7th-seeded Michael Chang on Monday, advanced to the third round by beating Spain's Sergi Bruguera 6-4, 6-2.

Chang, who at 17 became the youngest man to win a Grand Slam event when he beat Ivan Lendl and Stefan Edberg at the French Open has had difficulty living up to the exploit.

Results

Results of second round matches in the men's Italian Open tennis championships today (Prefix number denotes seed): 16-Alberto Mancini (Argentina) beat Henri Leconte (France) 6-4 6-4 4-Emilio Sanchez (Spain) beat Marcelo Filippini (Uruguay) 4-6 6-1 6-2 10-Thomas Muster (Austria) beat Anders Jarryd (Sweden) 5-1 retired 3-Andres Gomez (Ecuador) beat Diego Nargiso (Italy) 7-6 (7-4) 6-4

Paul Haarhuis (Netherlands) beat Massimo Cierro (Italy) 6-4 6-4 13-Jonas Svensson (Sweden) beat Tomas Carbonell (Spain) 6-3 6-1 2-Aaron Krickstein (US) beat Karel Novacek (Czechoslovakia) 6-2 6-2 Jan Gunnarsson (Sweden) beat Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 6-4 6-2 6-Martin Jaisle (Argentina) beat Renzo Furlan (Italy) 6-4 6-4 Brad Gilbert (US) beat Luiz Mattar (Brazil) 7-6 (7-5) 6-4

Guillermo Perez-Roldan (Argentina) beat Jean Fleurian (France) 6-3 6-4 4-Jim Courier (US) beat Jaime Yzaga (Peru) 6-3 6-4

Sabo lifts Reds past Pirates

CINCINNATI, May 16, (AP)—The Cincinnati Reds beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-4 in 11 innings last night for their best start of the century as Todd Benzinger singled with the bases loaded.

Cincinnati's 23-7 record is the best in the National League baseball and the best 30-game start in modern Red's history. The 1970 club opened 22-8.

Chris Sabo started the game-winning rally with a one-out single off Bob Patterson (2-1) and continued to second when right fielder R. J. Reynolds bobbled the ball for an error. Billy Hatcher was walked intentionally and after Patterson balked to advance the runners, Barry Larkin was intentionally walked to load the bases for Benzinger.

Tim Lincecum (3-0) pitched the top of the 11th for the victory.

Cubs 12, Braves 2
Andre Dawson hit a pair of two-run homers and Jeff Pico, just up from the minors, allowed one hit in six shutout innings as the Chicago routed Atlanta.

Pico (1-0) allowed no hits through five innings before Oddibe McDowell opened the sixth with a ground single to right field just out of second baseman Ryne Sandberg's reach.

Dawson, who leads the NL with 11 homers, had the 31st multi-homer game of his career. He also hit two homers against the Braves last Tuesday at Chicago.

Pico recalled from Chicago's Class AAA Iowa farm club on Monday night, continued his mastery of Atlanta. The victory improved his lifetime mark against the Braves to 3-0, including a 5-0 shutout on Aug. 27, 1988, his last complete game in the majors.

Cardinals 4, Astros 0
Joe Magrane pitched a four-hitter to break a personal eight-game losing streak as St. Louis beat Houston, sending the Astros to their fifth consecutive defeat.

Magrane (1-6) outpitched Mike Scott (1-4) for his first win in 14 starts since last Aug. 29. The St. Louis left-hander began the game with a 6.45 earned-run average, having allowed 27 runs in 37 2/3 innings.

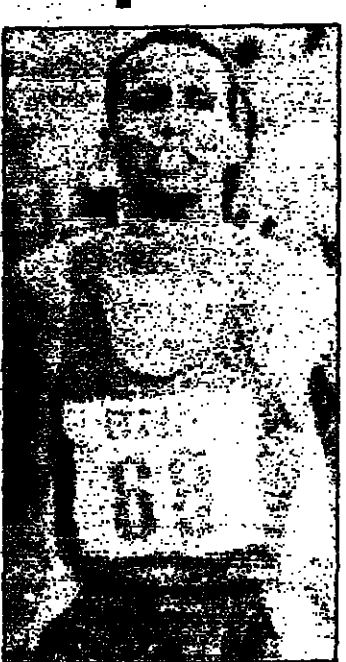
Willie McGee had three singles, scored twice and drove in a run for the Cardinals, who won for only the fourth time in 11 games. The Astros have lost eight of nine.

Tigers 3, Rangers 2
Coal Fielder hit his Major League-leading 14th home run and the Detroit Tigers beat the Texas Rangers.

With the score 1-1, Lloyd Moseby opened the seventh with a single and advanced on a balk by Kevin Brown (5-2). Fielder followed with a 414-foot drive into the center-field stands.

Results	
NY Yankees	Minnesota
4	3
Seattle	Toronto
3	2
Cleveland	Oakland
3	4
Chicago	Baltimore
5	4
California	Milwaukee
8	3
Detroit	Texas
3	2
Boston at Kansas City (ppd)	
National League	American League
Chicago Cubs	Atlanta
12	2
St. Louis	Houston
4	0
Cincinnati	Pittsburgh
5	4
Philadelphia	San Diego Padres
3	1
San Francisco	NY Mets
6	2
Los Angeles	Montreal
3	2

Top field for Bislet GP mile



Said Aouita

OSLO, Norway, May 16, (AP)—Organisers yesterday boasted a world-class mile field for the 25th annual Bislet Games Grand Prix track and field meet, including 1,500-metre record holder Said Aouita.

"The field will be headed by Said Aouita of Morocco, who has asked for a pace setter who can run the three first rounds (1,200 metres) in 2:45 minutes," said Arne Haukvik, spokesman of the Bislet-Alliance, which will stage the meet on July 14.

Aouita also holds the records for the 2,000, 3,000 and 5,000 metres, plus the two-mile record. But he has failed to break Steve Cram's mile record of 3:46:32 set at Bislet in 1985.

Haukvik said Cram is recovering from injuries suffered this winter.

"He is currently practicing in Boulder, Colorado but his entry at Bislet is still uncertain. But

mile stars like Abdi Bile of Somalia and Peter Elliott of Britain are coming." Haukvik told a news conference. "American ace Steve Scott is so far on the waiting list."

The men's 10,000-metre race will limited its field to 22 runners headed by Salvatore Anibio of Italy, and two Norwegians, are Naikim and John Halvorsen. Fifty-six track and field world records have been set at Bislet stadium. All living record holders have been invited to the 25th anniversary meet.

Two Americans, Ben Eastman, 78, and Forrest Towns, 76, who set 500 metres and 110-metre hurdles records in 1934 and 1936, are the two oldest invited.

Among others records setters invited are Jim Fuchs, Roger Moens, Pentti Karvonen, Laszlo Tabori, Rick Wohlbuter, Anders Gaarderud, John Walker and Aouita. Walker is still active.

Foyt on verge of several Indianapolis Motor Speedway records

INDIANAPOLIS, May 16, (UPI)—A.J. Foyt's body has made 32 straight Indianapolis 500 starts. Now, his racing spirit has returned to join it.

Foyt reminisced yesterday inside his garage as rain washed out practice for the 74th Indy race. The four-time Indy champion admits he allowed his race team to fall apart while grieving the deaths of his mother in 1982 and his father in 1983.

The 55-year-old legend has not won a race since his parents died, but he says he has a renewed desire to.

"The last few years we've been trying

to play catch up where a lot of people were doing a lot of developing and testing," Foyt said. "I was gone for three or four years. I was here but I wasn't here. Nothing against my family being gone, but being here didn't mean nothing to me. Now I've got enthusiasm to get back on top and have the edge like I used to have."

Foyt is on the verge of several Indianapolis Motor Speedway records. He could become the oldest driver in Indy history by qualifying for the May 27 race and extend his record for consecutive

"brickyard" starts to 33 since his rookie appearance in 1958. "I never thought I'd be here this long," he said. "It's a great honour. If somebody breaks this record, I hope I live long enough to see it."

Dick Simon owns the record for oldest Indy starter, taking the green flag in 1988 at 54 years, 8 months and eight days. Foyt wants to make the field, but he would rather bypass the age mark.

"I wish I was the youngest," Foyt said. "I've had a lot of fun through the years. I regret nothing. I always felt my good

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan, May 16, (AP)—The Detroit Pistons reached conference finals for the fourth consecutive year as Mark Aguirre scored 25 points in a 95-84 victory that eliminated the New York Knicks in five games.

The Pistons, bidding to repeat as National Basketball Association champions, will meet the winner of a series between Chicago and Philadelphia, which the Bulls lead 3-1.

The Pistons bench outscored the Knicks' reserves 44-17 in last night's game and 164-104 for the series. Detroit had a 44-34 rebound advantage, including 18-4 by its reserves.

Patrick Ewing, playing all but 1:59 of the game, led the Knicks with 22 points, but he missed his last eight shots. Gerald Wilkins scored 18 points for New York.

The Knicks, who led by as many as 14 points early, were ahead 28-20 after one period. Then Aguirre, who watched the entire first quarter from the bench, took charge.

Aguirre, who hit eight of 10 shots for 17 second-quarter points, gave the Pistons a 47-45 lead—their first advantage since early in the game—with a 3-point shot with 1:00 left in the first half. Aguirre then made a short jumper at the buzzer to give the

Pistons a 51-49 half-time lead.

The Pistons began the fourth quarter leading 69-63, but a three-point play by Johnny Newman and a basket by Wilkins made it 71-68 at the 10:43 mark.

Vinnie Johnson hit two baskets and Aguirre one to put Detroit ahead by nine with 8:33 left and the Pistons led comfortably the rest of the way, increasing their lead to 13 with 6:29 remaining.

Suns 106, Lakers 103
The Phoenix Suns kept the Los Angeles Lakers from reaching the Western Conference finals for the first time since 1981 last night, rallying from a 15-point deficit for a 106-103 victory.

Kevin Johnson scored 37 points, including 14 in the final quarter, as the Suns won the Western Conference semifinal 4-1 despite a career playoff-high 43 points from Magic Johnson, his second consecutive game with that many points.

It was the first time in seven tries that Phoenix has beaten the Lakers in the playoffs.

Trail Blazers 136, Spurs 132
Terry Porter scored a career playoff-high 38 points as the Portland Trail Blazers survived a series of San Antonio comebacks to beat the Spurs 136-132 in double overtime and take a 3-2 lead

in their Western Conference semifinal.

Each team has won at home in every game in the series, which shifts to San Antonio for game 6 tomorrow night.

Portland, with both of its centers out with injuries, finally clinched the victory by hitting six of eight free throws in the final 1-2 minutes. Jerome Kersey clinched the win by making two free throws with 11.1 seconds left.

Clyde Drexler added 35 points, nine assists and eight rebounds for Portland. Kersey added 23 points.

Terry Cummings scored 32 points, but missed a crucial free throw and was called for an over-and-back violation in the final 50 seconds.

David Robinson had 27 points and 15 rebounds for the Spurs, who rallied from a 22-point third-quarter deficit to force the first overtime on David Wingate's 3-point shot with 1:52 seconds to go in regulation. The 119-119 tie was the first time San Antonio was even since the game began.

Six players fouled out, including Drexler and Robinson, who were disqualified in the first overtime. San Antonio also lost starters Willie Anderson and Mark Strickland, along with Wingate. Cliff Robinson fouled out for Portland.

Trail Blazers take 3-2 lead

Pistons, Suns outlast opponents



David Robinson (left) got 27 points for Spurs

Brady bows out of soccer

DUBLIN, May 16, (Reuters)—Midfielder Liam Brady was to make his final appearance on the international soccer stage by playing for World Cup finalists Ireland in the first 20 minutes of their friendly against Finland today.

The match represents Brady's testimonial as well as part of Ireland's preparations for the finals starting in Italy on June 8, and he was certain of an emotional farewell when he walked off the field and into retirement.

Brady took the decision to end his international career last September when Ireland manager Jack Charlton pulled him off and insists he has not had second thoughts.

Brady, whose club career included spells with Italy's Juventus and Internazionale, said: "I always wanted to retire after the 1990 World Cup, but Jack wants the game played in a certain way and it was pointless for me to hang around."

"I owe him a tremendous debt because without him tomorrow's game would not be taking place. He is letting

me lead the team out and it is a privilege to be playing at all."

● A hat-trick by former Argentine World Cup hero Mario Kempes was not enough to deny FC Tirol a 5-3 win over St. Poelten in the last match of their successful defence of the Austrian League championship yesterday.

Kempes, who scored six goals in seven matches in the 1978 World Cup finals, hit the net twice in the first half to put St. Poelten 2-1 ahead at the interval. But although he added another five minutes from the end, the League champions hammered four during the second half to finish easy winners.

Gerhard Rodax saw his last chance of winning Europe's Golden Boot award disappear when he failed to score as his team Admira Wacker were beaten 3-1 by Sturm Graz. Rodax finished the season with 35 goals and Real Madrid's Hugo Sanchez, with 38 goals to his name, was almost certain to win the award.

Monroe, Hayes, Bing, Johnston honoured

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts, May 16, (AP)—Earl Monroe, overlooked three times by the voters, just smiled and savoured his long-awaited induction into basketball's Hall of Fame.

Also enshrined yesterday were Elvin Hayes, Dave Bing and the late Neil Johnston, the Philadelphia Warriors' book-shot artist who won three straight scoring titles in the 1950s.

Monroe, the National Basket-

ball Association's 1968 Rookie of the Year at Baltimore, who later played a key role in the New York Knicks' 1973 championship, had become so discouraged about being passed over that "I just stopped thinking about it."

But not even a dispute over the voting process used by the executive committee, which led to the resignation of Bob Cousy as president of the Hall of Fame, could dim Monroe's sense of satisfaction.

Mitsubishi set for honours in Jordan Rally

TOYOTA, so long the dominant factor in Middle East Rally Championships, faces its supremacy threatened during its 1990 season by Marlboro-backed Mitsubishi.

With the help provided by Ralliart Middle East, the Mitsubishi have entered the 1990 season with a new Galant VR4 Group A vehicle that proved its efficiency and reliability in the world Championships by winning two of the most prestigious events the 1000 Lakes Rally in Finland and the RAC Rally in Britain.

Toyota's grip on Middle East Rally Championships has been unshakable for the past four years but Mitsubishi is better prepared this year although it is quite different in character than the world championship events. The terrain is much tougher for both car and the driver and the events are shorter in times and distances.

But the Mitsubishi Galant has passed the sternest test when it finished the 1990 Marlboro Safari Rally, regarded as one of the toughest and grueliest in the world. Mitsubishi in fact was one of the only ten vehicles to finish the race.

With Marlboro Safari Rally experience behind the car the Ralliart Middle East Team technical manager J. Lindstrom hopes the car would create a greater impact during this week's Jordan Rally.

And with Dubai's latest motor racing sensation, Suhail Bin Khalifa at the wheel, the critics and the motor racing experts predict a battle royal between Toyota and Mitsubishi in coming months for honours.

Mitsubishi Galant VR4 driven by Suhail packs plenty of power. With its 295 bhp engine, four-wheel drive and four-wheel steering it is likely to surprise lot of people.

The Jordan Rally the second leg of the Middle East Rally Championships will be staged off from the Marriot Hotel, Amman, tomorrow. The total distance to be covered during the two-day race is 1055 km.



Fartan lifts his King of the Mountains trophy (Reuters wirephoto)

Giovannetti triumphs in Spanish cycle race

MADRID, May 16, (UPI)—Italy's Marco Giovannetti won the Tour of Spain on the 22nd and last stage in central Madrid yesterday, beating last year's winner Pedro Delgado of Spain by 1 minute 28 seconds overall.

East Germany's Uwe Raab won the last stage along Madrid's Paseo de la Castellana, inches ahead of England's Malcolm Elliott. It was Raab's third stage win, the others being in Leon and Pamplona.

As expected, the final stage produced no changes among the leaders. Giovannetti thus became the third Italian since 1981 to win the Tour of Spain, the third most important cycle race in the world after France and Italy. His overall time was 94 hours, 36 minutes, 40 seconds.

"Wonderful, unbelievable," was Giovannetti's reaction. "All I want now is for Milan to win the European Cup and Italy the World Cup," added the soccer-mad Milan-born racer.

Delgado, who has won the Tour of Spain twice and the French classic once, was unable to break Giovannetti on Monday's decisive mountain stage on

the outskirts of the Spanish capital.

The Italian's 1 minute 28 second advantage going into the final 177 km Palazuelos de Eresma-Madrid stage made his victory little more than a formality.

Worn
Third overall was Spain's Anselmo Fuente, 1:48 behind, fourth was Ruiz Cabestany at 2:16, fifth Colombia's Fabio Parra at 3:07, and sixth Federico Etxabe of Spain, three minutes, 52 seconds off the pace.

Giovannetti had worn the leader's yellow jersey since the 11th stage on May 5. The 28-year-old has been a professional racer for six seasons.

At 1.90m, he is the tallest of the 219 riders — of whom 133 finished — who began the Tour on April 24.

The result was remarkable in that the Italian, who has been based in Spain for the past two years, is not a recognised mountain specialist and yet he resisted all attempts by specialists such as Delgado and the Colombians to destroy him on the mountain climbs.

"We're running decent," he said. "I ran over 219 pretty easy. I brought a brand new car to the track, unloaded it and nobody's going to volunteer a bunch of information. We've had to take a stab in the dark and with the crew we've got, we held our own. With a new car, new motor, to just unload and go racing, I'd like to see some of the others do that. They'll find out it's a little harder."

Emerson Fittipaldi, the first qualifier for this year's race, has the provisional pole but could be beaten when time trials continue Saturday.

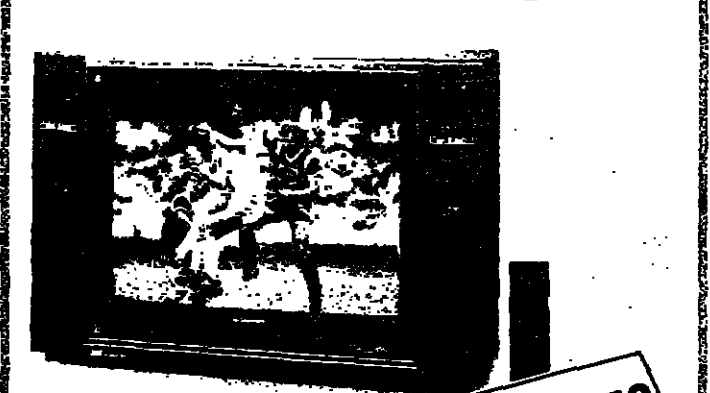
Sonics name Jones as coach

SEATTLE, Washington, May 16, (AP)—K.C. Jones, who coached the Boston Celtics to a pair of NBA championships in the 1980s, was named yesterday as the new coach of the Seattle Supersonics.

Sonics spokesman Jim Rupp

confirmed that the 58-year-old Jones has replaced Bernie Bickelstaff, who moves up to team vice-president of operations. Rupp said the Supersonics have scheduled a news conference to introduce Jones as the team's new coach.

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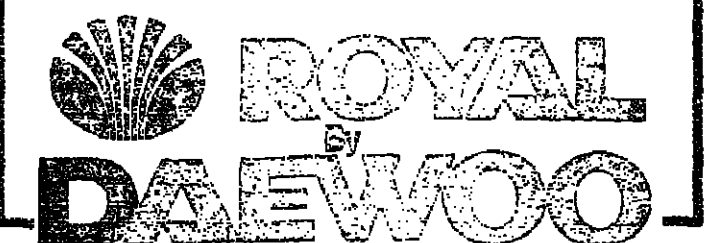
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Gower returns to form while Stewart watches

Williams takes seven for 61

LONDON, May 16, (Reuters): Former England captain David Gower returned to form for his new county Hampshire by stroking a unbeaten 87 from 85 deliveries on the opening day of their four-day championship cricket match against Sussex yesterday.

With Gower in full flow, Hampshire were fully in command on 184 for two after dismissing Sussex for only 152 in their first innings.

Sussex acting captain Colin Wells must have regretted opting to bat first as his side were reduced to 66 for seven with Dutch pace bowler Paul Jan-Baker doing much of the damage and finishing with four for 51.

Only an eighth-wicket stand of 76 by Tony Pigott, who made 50, and Ian Salisbury (37) gave the score a measure of respectability. Gower, watched by England manager Micky Stewart, hit 14 fours and a six, taking 18 from one over from off-spin bowler Salisbury and 14 from another by seamer Pigott.

A championship-best performance by paceman Neil Williams of seven for 61 from 22 lively overs followed by an unbeaten opening partnership of 71 by Desmond Hayes and Mike Roseberry put Middlesex on top against Kent at Lord's.

Only a fifth-wicket partnership of 122 in 35 overs between captain Chris Cowdrey (47) and Matthew Fleming (69) enabled Kent to reach 196 after being sent in to bat.

West Indian Test opener Haynes and Roseberry looked in no trouble as they took the Mid-



David Gower

dlesex total to 71 without loss by the close.

Glamorgan batsmen Geoff Holmes and Matthew Maynard were both on the casualty list after breaking fingers during the game against Gloucestershire at Bristol.

Holmes was forced to retire hurt after being struck by West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh after making 12 and he was followed to hospital by Maynard who was hit by paceman David Lawrence when he had scored 55.

Glamorgan still managed to score 291 before being all out and Gloucestershire were nought without loss at the close.

Scores

At Derby: Lancashire 223 for two after 98 overs (G. Mendis 90, M. Atherton 69 not out) v Der-



Neil Williams

byshire. At Leicester: Leicestershire 301 for seven (N. Briers 139 not out, J. Whitaker 43) v Nottinghamshire.

At Northampton: Warwickshire 286 for six (D. Reeve 82 not out, A. Kallicharran 72, G. Small 42) v Northamptonshire.

At Bristol: Glamorgan 291 in 100.4 overs (A. Butcher 83, M. Maynard 55, N. Cowley 51 not out; C. Walsh four for 62). Gloucestershire nought for no wicket after one over.

At Southampton: Sussex 152 in 59.2 overs (A. Pigott 50; P. Bakker four for 51). Hampshire 184 for two after 47 overs (D. Gower 87 not out, P. Terry 40).

At Lord's: Kent 196 in 77.3 overs (M. Fleming 69, C. Cowdrey 47; Williams seven for 61). Middlesex 71 for no wicket after 29 overs.

Oilers edge Bruins

BOSTON, May 16, (Reuters): Peter Klima, scored at 15:13 of the third overtime to lift the Edmonton Oilers to a 3-2 victory over the Boston Bruins 3-2 early today in the opening game of the 1990 Stanley Cup finals.

Klima took passes from Jari Kurri and Craig MacTavish and fired a 15-footer through the legs of Boston goalie Andy Moog.

The win gave Edmonton a 1-0 lead in the best-of-seven series for the National Hockey League championship. The series resumes on Friday in Boston.

The game, the longest Stanley Cup final played so far, lasted 115 minutes and 13 seconds.

The game was interrupted by a 20-minute power failure with 17 minutes and 19 seconds remaining in the third overtime period. Edmonton's Adam Graves put the Oilers ahead 1-0 at 9:46 of

the first period when he took a pass out from the side boards from Joe Murphy and fired the puck past Moog.

The Oilers made it 2-0 at the 13-minute mark when Glenn Anderson combined with Mark Messier to beat Moog with a 15 foot backhand flipshot.

Boston rallied for two goals in the third period by captain Raymond Bourque. The first coming at 3:43 and the second with 1:29 remaining in regulation time. Cam Neely and Greg Hawgood assisted on both goals.

Boston outshot Edmonton 52-31.

On May 24th, 1988, a complete power failure hit Boston Garden during a Stanley Cup final game also between the Oilers and the Bruins.

The game, tied 3-3 at the time, was cancelled.

Soviet runner barred

INDIANAPOLIS, May 16, (AP): A Soviet athlete who competed in the Los Angeles marathon this spring has tested positive for steroid use and will be suspended from competition in the United States for two years, the Athletics Congress announced yesterday.

Sirje Eichelman, who finished second in the women's division in the March 4 marathon, tested positive for nandrolone metabolites, a substance banned by International Amateur Athletic Federation and International Olympic Committee rules.

Directors

TAC, the US track and field governing body, notified the directors of the marathon, the Soviet federation and the IAAF of the disqualification.

Eichelman, 34, is the second foreign athlete to test positive for banned substances in the United States this year. On March 29, TAC announced that Trevor Black, a Jamaican long jumper living in Virginia, had tested positive for pseudoephedrine. He received a three-month suspension.

Britain's Jockey Club puts back Aliysa hearing by two months

LONDON, May 16, (Reuters): Britain's Jockey Club, who are conducting an inquiry after the Oaks Classic winner Aliysa failed a dope test, have set back the hearing by nearly two months.

The club's disciplinary committee yesterday agreed to grant an adjournment to the inquiry originally planned for May 21 and have set the hearing for July 16-17, more than a year after the race was run.

An application for the adjournment was made on behalf of the filly's trainer Michael Stoute. Aliysa, owned and bred by the Aga Khan, was positively dope-tested after

winning the Epsom Classic on June 10.

Aliysa could become the first British classic winner to be disqualified after failing a post-race dope test.

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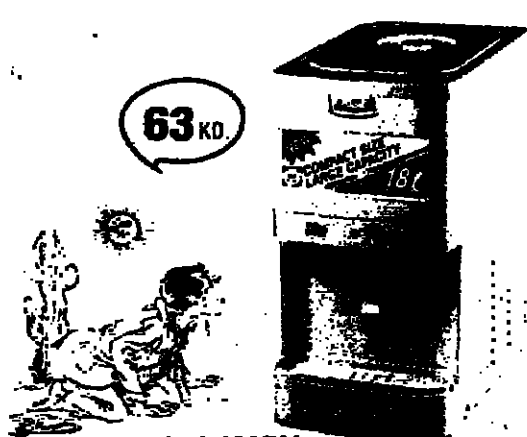
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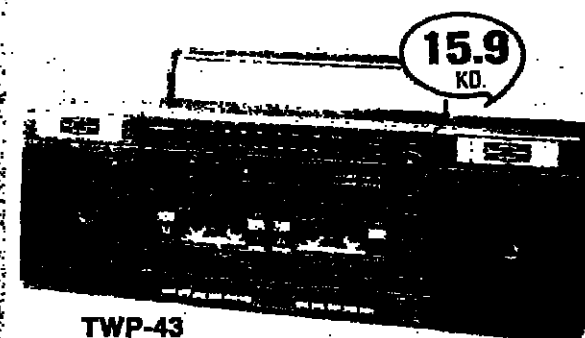
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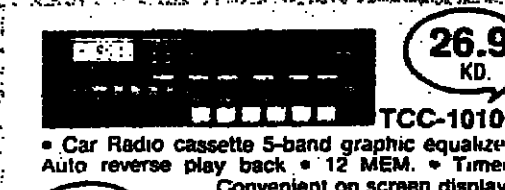
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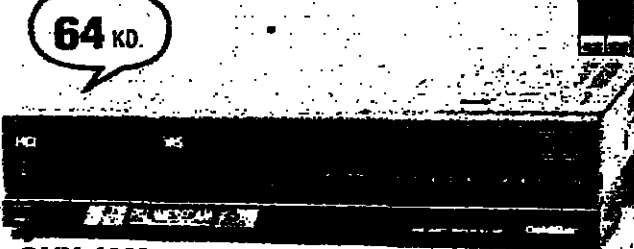
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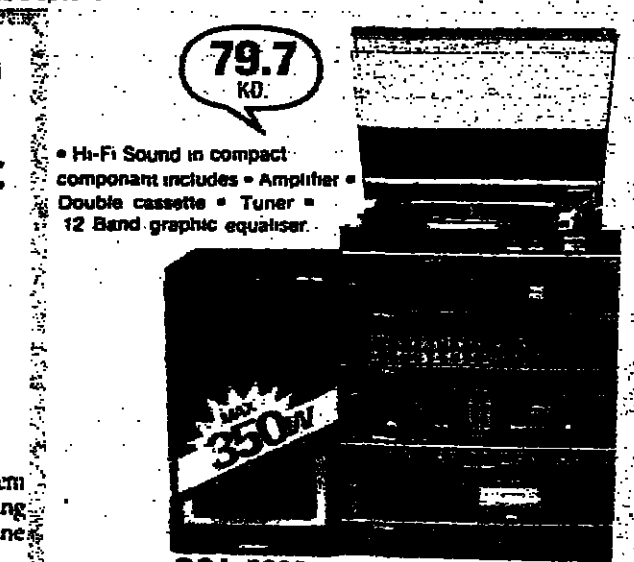
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